SKELMERSDALE Champion

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ARSON SUSPECTED FOLLOWING BLAZE AT FORMER SKEM GROUND

Building that was used as hospitality room damaged 'beyond repair'

Report by **Henry James**

A FIRE at the former Skelmersdale United FC ground on the Stanley Industrial Estate in the town, which destroyed a building formerly used as a hospitality room, is being treated as arson.

Four fire crews from Skelmersdale and Ormskirk attended the blaze at the site in Selby Place at about 8.30pm on Monday (December 10).

A section of the building, which measured approximately 10m by 10m, was well alight when the fire crews arrived.

Situated next to the clubhouse, the severely damaged structure will now have to be demolished.

Firefighters extinguished the blaze using one jet and two hose reels.

A spokesman for Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service said: "The cause of the fire is believed to be deliberate and an investigation is now underway."

Firefighters were in attendance at the scene for approximately two-and-a-half hours.

Skelmersdale United had played at the ground from 2004 until last year when they were evicted by the stadium's owners, Chequer Properties.

At the time bailiffs were sent in to change the locks at the stadium and a security guard was put in place to prevent club officials from entering the premises.

Following the football club's eviction the clubhouse was broken into a number of times and has been the target of criminal damage since then.

A keyholder at the ground, Frank Hughes, who is a former chairman of Skelmersdale United, said: "The commercial premise was used for hospitality and it is completely burnt out. It is beyond repair.

Vandalism

"There have been numerous incidents of vandalism at the site since Skelmersdale United left. Yobs have broken into changing rooms and used it as a boozing and drugs den.

"The people who are behind this latest incident probably think there will not be any recourse because the ground is in a poor state of repair but I would urge whoever it is to stop what they are doing."

Southport FC are currently using the ground for training purposes but there are also plans for a new club, to be called Skelmersdale AFC, to start playing there next year.

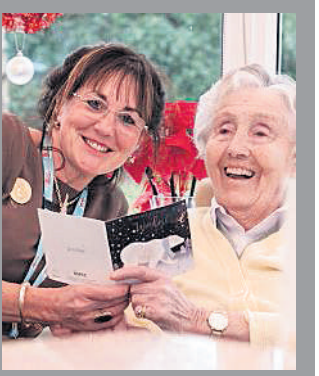
More details about the new club are expected to be announced in the coming weeks.

Above: The building at the Selby Place stadium has been left gutted following the suspected arson attack on Monday.

Below: How it used to look when used for match day hospitality by Skelmersdale United .

INSIDE THIS WEEK...

Crisps firm recycling scheme



Christmas cards campaign

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Lancashire Care Trust among first to roll out new service aimed at easing A&E pressure

LANCASHIRE Care NHS Foundation Trust is one of the first batch of NHS organisations to deliver a new method of sharing crucial patient information being rolled out across the country that will take the pressure off accident and emergency departments.

The new National Record Locator Service allows a more joined-up health and care system and is being rolled out by NHS Digital. It enables assessors, such as mental health nurses and paramedics who are called to a patient in distress, to find out whether a patient they are treating has a mental health crisis plan.

This in turn enables them to transport that patient to a more appropriate care setting than A&E or offer alternative, community-based care as indicated in their crisis plan, something that would not only improve patient safety and mental health outcomes but also reduce duplicate care costs and help staff safety.

Damian Parkinson, director of Health Informatics at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said: "This is a great project that we're leading on in the North West and as a trust we're pleased to be one of the first batch of NHS organisations that are implementing the National Record Locator Service.

"This piece of work is about delivering smart healthcare in a way that is joined-up and beneficial to the people we care for by giving them quality care at the right time and place. The service provides front-line staff with information available at a tap of a button and is a lovely example of how technology is helping the NHS evolve into delivering care collaboratively."

Damian Parkinson, director of Health Informatics at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust.

Hadleigh Stollar, Integrating Care Programme Manager at NHS Digital, added: "This is a critical milestone in the journey towards patient-centred, integrated care enabled through a nationally-supported and agnostic capability.

"Fundamental to this success has been the outstanding collaboration between NHS trusts, system suppliers and the dedicated team at NHS Digital and I am personally grateful to everyone who has worked tirelessly to make this a reality".

Integration

In the North West, the service has been launched by North West Ambulance Services in conjunction with Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and Cumbria Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

The scope of the National Record Locator Service will evolve over time but demonstrating the capability through this first-use case is an important step in assisting NHS organisations in their plans to move towards better integrated care models.

The next phase of development will continue integration with other local health and care record exemplars before a full roll-out across the NHS. Record retrieval for phase one sites is expected by summer 2019 and future use-cases include end-of-life care, child health, maternity and cancer.

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Tenant accuses council of 'playing down' abestos fears - but authority insists ' there's no risk to residents'

Report by **Henry James**

AN angry Skelmersdale resident has accused West Lancs Council of making light of tenants' fears concerning the possible presence of asbestos in local authority-owned accommodation.

Stephen Lafferty, who lives in a council flat in Eskdale, said the council had 'played down' asbestos fears in a recent Champion article but had been quick to come out to his home after he highlighted similar problems.

Another resident had contacted us with concerns after noticing work was being done on the communal hallways of the block of flats he lives in - also in Eskdale - to treat asbestos.

In response a council spokesman told us at the time: "There is no risk of exposure from asbestos fibres to residents or the public during works at Eskdale."

However, Mr Lafferty said: "I phoned the council to say I thought there was asbestos in my ceilings. If there is no problem with asbestos, why did they send someone round so quickly?

"The council acted very swiftly after my call and treated a room a day with a workman scraping every ceiling.

"But why did they not move me out though? I have worked with asbestos before and there is no such thing as a safe level. As soon as it gets in the body it can cause a problem.

"I have been in this property for nine years and I could have been exposed to this for that time."

Reassurance

A West Lancashire Borough Council spokesman commented: "The council has previously stated there is no risk of exposure from asbestos fibres to residents or the public during works at Eskdale associated with fitting new inspection hatches in the communal landing and staircase areas. We can confirm this is still the case.

"With regard to Mr Lafferty, a council officer visited his home at his request as he was concerned regarding some loose artex on his hallway ceiling. To provide Mr Lafferty with reassurance an air test was carried out which indicated there were no asbestos fibres present in the air and therefore no risk to Mr Lafferty or his household. Nevertheless, the council arranged for a licensed asbestos removal contractor to remove the artex ceiling in the hallway and in other areas where artex was showing signs of disrepair. These works are scheduled to be completed in the next couple of days.

"The council takes its responsibilities for health and safety very seriously. Any works the council has done on authority properties where asbestos may be present are carried out in accordance with the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012."

Walkers to launch first nationwide recycling scheme for crisp packets

Report by **Henry James**

SNACK good giant Walkers, which has a manufacturing site in Skelmersdale, is launching the country's first nationwide recycling scheme for crisp packets.

Working with recyclers, TerraCycle, the scheme will tap into an established network of recycling collection points around the UK.

Walkers say the scheme is simple and free to use and all brands of crisp packets will be accepted to ultimately be turned into other basic plastic items.

People are being encouraged to collect empty crisp packets and take them to their nearest recycling drop-off point - there are hundreds across the UK - which can be found at walkers.co.uk/recycle.

However, if there isn't a drop-off point nearby, residents can download a label from the TerraCycle website and arrange to have the packets collected from their home, by courier, free of charge.

The packets will then be sent to TerraCycle who will clean them and shred them ready to be made into small plastic pellets, which will be used to make everyday items such as outdoor furniture, trays, and even roofing and flooring.

To encourage collection and return of the packets for recycling, the scheme offers charity points based on the number of bags collected. People are encouraged to collect as many packs as they can in one go and then send in larger batches.

In August, campaign group 38 Degrees presented a petition to Walkers' parent company, PepsiCo, calling for them and other companies to stop using plastic in their crisp packaging.

Former Engand footballer Gary Lineker promoting the crisps packet recycling scheme.

38 Degrees said they wanted to see the packets made from recycled products or preferably non-plastic environmentally-friendly material.

Promoted

Brands produced at the company's Skelmersdale site in Pennine Place, near to the M58 motorway in West Pimbo include Walkers crisps, Monster Munch, Walkers Baked and Snack a Jacks.

Walkers brand ambassador, former Engand footballer Gary Lineker, is supporting the scheme and has voiced an online film explaining how it works, available at walkers.co.uk/recycle.

The scheme, which will also be promoted on Walkers crisp packets from January and on the TerraCycle recycling network from this week, has been welcomed by the Government.

Environment Secretary, Michael Gove, said: "As the custodians of our planet we must take action now to protect our oceans and wildlife from single-use plastic pollution. Walkers are setting a fine example with this new scheme, and I want to see other companies step-up, follow suit and reduce their environmental impact.

"Through our 25 Year Environment Plan we have committed to eliminating avoidable plastic waste and we will continue to take decisive action to protect our precious environment."

Gary Lineker commented: "I love this initiative, what a great way of sorting out the problem of crisp packet recycling. To make this work we really need everyone to get involved by collecting and returning the packets to be recycled."

And Ian Ellington, general manager of PepsiCo UK, added: "This is another important step towards our ambition to make all of our packaging 100% recyclable, compostable or biodegradable by 2025. This is the first crisp packet recycling scheme in the UK and it will only work if everyone gets collecting and sending in, which is why we've made the scheme as simple as possible and free."

Concourse bosses hail switch-on success

MANAGEMENT at the Concourse shopping centre have said that the official Christmas lights switch-on event was a great success.

Thousands of shoppers and families turned out to welcome in the festive period.

As well as the switching on of the Christmas lights and tree, Father Christmas and his helpers also returned to the centre while entertainment included a set from Lucy Thomas, finalist of The Voice Kids 2018, and Jake McKechnie, who appeared on the 2017 series of The Voice Kids. Disney princesses also performed on stage and roamed around the centre to meet shoppers.

One lucky youngster also won a Santa Sleepover at Gulliver's World in Warrington after posting a letter to Father Christmas in the postbox in the centre.

Nine-year-old Kate Regan from Skelmersdale will enjoy her prize with her parents and seven-year-old sister Sophie.

Gary Mitchell, centre manager, said: "We had such a great time, welcoming everyone to the centre to launch Christmas.

"We spread the cheer throughout the Concourse so that everyone was able to enjoy the entertainment, wherever they were.

"It was great to connect the Concourse with the local council for the event and we loved seeing how busy the Youth Zone was with all the activities and refreshments."

Meanwhile anyone who took an 'elfie selfie' can look out for their photographs on the Concourse Facebook page at Facebook.com/ConcourseShoppingCentre.

The Concourse centre's Jennifer Burnett (centre) with Lucy Thomas and Jake McKichnie

Police concerned for missing teenager

POLICE have expressed concern for a teenager missing for more than a week.

Sixteen-year-old Taylor Gorman *(pictured)* was last seen in the Skelmersdale area at around 6.20pm on Tuesday, December 4.

Taylor is described as 5ft 4in tall, with dark hair and of a slim build.

When he was last seen he was wearing a black and white Nike tracksuit.

He is believed to have links to the Irvine area in Ayrshire, Scotland.

A spokesperson for Skelmersdale Police said: "We are now concerned for his welfare and are appealing for your help to find Taylor. If you have seen him or have any information, please call us on 101 quoting log reference LC-20181204-1211."

Rosie Cooper poses next to a Merseyrail train - the West Lancs MP is hopeful that progress is finally being made towards a new Skemersdale railway station linked to the Merseyrail network.

MP raises new hopes for rail link by 2023

SKELMERSDALE'S long-awaited rail link could finally be on track by 2023, according to projected dates received by West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper.

Concerned by the continued silence over the proposed rail project, Ms Cooper contacted West Lancashire Borough Council, Lancashire County Council and Merseytravel, who are all involved in the scheme.

And it has been clearly set out by the authorities that the feasibility study will be completed by mid-2019.

Should this prove acceptable, then Network Rail will move to a detailed design stage which will run through to late 2021/22 with the potential to start construction between 2022 and 2023 and a train service possibly finally coming into operation by late 2023 or 2024.

Rosie Cooper said: "While completion is still some years off, it is clear that progress is being made in the right direction towards delivery of a train station for Skelmersdale.

"Residents have waited decades for adequate transport links and I have been campaigning for a train station for Skelmersdale since being elected here in 2005.

"This latest correspondence confirms that the agencies involved have a clear timeline to follow in order to deliver this major project.

"However, the project will only proceed to the final development stages if funding is made available by the Secretary of State for Transport. I will continue to lobby the Department for Transport and this Secretary of State or the next, to ensure they prioritise Skelmersdale railway as a significant infrastructure project deserving of DfT investment.

"Having launched the campaign for a railway station with local residents when we were standing collecting signatures on petitions in the shopping centre of a weekend to demonstrate the support for this scheme, to speaking in Parliament on the subject and taking every opportunity to press the transformation a rail link would bring, we have come a long way in our aim of securing a railway station in the town."

Council working to re-open village public toilets after vandal attacks

WEST Lancs Council is working to ensure that the public toilets on Church Road in Tarleton can re-open as soon as possible after they were targeted by vandals a number of times.

The latest incident took place overnight on Monday, December 3 when the door of the disabled toilet was kicked in and the lock damaged.

All three toilets, which are managed by the council, are currently closed.

The ladies has been shut after youths tried to set fire to it.

The gents remained open after the washbasin was smashed in but further damage was caused last weekend and this has now also been closed.

The vandalism has been reported to the police and CCTV footage from the council's cameras has been provided to help aid the investigation.

The council understands this is not an isolated matter. There is an ongoing police investigation regarding the damage to the toilets and other anti-social behaviour in the area.

Anyone with information can contact the police on 101 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

Peak-time fare rise for disabled travel pass holders

LANCASHIRE County Council is reminding residents who have a disabled person's NoW travel card that the fare to travel at peak times on weekday mornings has risen from 50p to £1.

The mandatory national concessionary travel scheme allows holders of a disabled person's pass to travel for free between 9.30am and 11pm Monday to Friday, and all day at weekends and bank holidays.

However, councils which operate the scheme have discretion to offer further concessions outside these times. This allows holders of a disabled person's pass to travel at a lower flat fare on journeys on local buses, which begin before 9.30am on Mondays to Fridays.

The charge for people who live within the Lancashire County Council boundary increased from 50p to £1 as from Monday, December 3. There had been no increase of the 50p charge for more than 10 years.

Christmas cards for care homes campaign launched

A CAMPAIGN inviting people across the county to send Christmas cards to local care homes has been launched.

The 'Festive Cards for the Holidays' appeal, run by Lancashire County Council, encourages people to send a card to care homes taking part in the scheme, to help brighten up the Christmas season and tackle loneliness and isolation.

As well as being something nice to receive in the post, the Christmas cards aim to help initiate conversations among the residents and bring back happy memories.

Research shows that this has many health benefits, particularly for people who are feeling lonely or isolated, or living with dementia.

County Councillor Joan Burrows, the county's Champion for Older People, said: "Christmas is a happy time for many, but can also be a very lonely time, particularly for people living in care homes.

"National figures from Age UK show that 200,000 older people have not had a conversation with friends or family for a month, and that 60% of people in care homes get no visitors at all.

"Loneliness can have a terrible effect on their mental and physical health, but if you have some spare Christmas cards, stamps and five minutes to spare, you can make a real difference to people's lives.

County Councillor Joan Burrows, with care home resident Josephine Cogley.

"Residents discuss the cards they've received and talk about their memories of Christmas and their families and friends, which helps them build connections between each other and feel less lonely.

"A similar scheme we ran called Postcards for Kindness over the summer was a real success. We hope the Christmas cards campaign will be just as popular and spread some Christmas cheer across our care homes."

County Councillor Shaun Turner, the authority's cabinet member for health and well-being, added: "Loneliness is a major health issue. Research has shown that chronic social isolation can reduce life expectancy by an equivalent amount to smoking. Studies have also found that people who report a high degree of loneliness are twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's disease.

"Encouraging people to remember events, bring back fond memories and spend time with others is vital in tackling loneliness and helping to slow the onset of dementia.

"Sending a Christmas card is something you can do that will only take a moment, but will put a smile on someone's face, tackle loneliness and help everyone get into the festive spirit."

You can find out more about the campaign and which care homes are taking part by visiting https://www.healthierlsc.co.uk/news/latest-news/cards-for-kindness.

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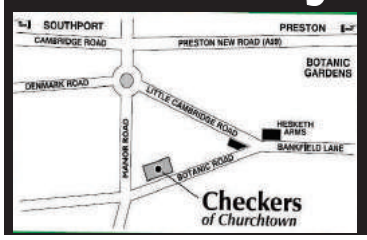

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Peter Ward and Martin Relton of SpanSet (1st and 3rd left) are welcomed by Richard Harrison and Munzi Ali of CoreRFID.

Swiss multinational acquires stake in Skem software firm

Report by **Henry James**

SPANSET, a Swiss-owned multinational company which produces lifting and height safety products, has acquired a stake in Skelmersdale software firm CoreRFID.

The deal aims to make CoreRFID the leading supplier of lifting inspection software systems worldwide.

CoreRFID's CheckedOK solution helps companies to comply with the rules on safety and maintenance inspections.

Radio frequency identification (RFID) tags are used to identify cranes, forklifts and other equipment in need of regular inspections, while the software helps to ensure these are carried out and keeps track of the results.

The system is a market leader in the UK and Ireland and was adopted by SpanSet several years ago and incorporated into its product range.

SpanSet provides lifting, load control and height safety products and services from its bases in 14 countries worldwide. It has invested in CoreRFID via its UK subsidiary SpanSet UK, which is based in Middlewich and which now holds a 33% stake in the firm.

SpanSet UK managing director Pete Ward said the company had recognised the need to incorporate an IT solution in its products. "Working with Core, an established provider of RFID and asset management software, proved to be very positive," he said.

"As we progressed it became evident that our services committed SpanSet quite closely to CoreRFID and its technology. We also realised that our perspective from the end-users of lifting and height safety products meant that we were able to help Core develop its offer further.

"To secure such a positive partnership it seemed like an obvious step to invest in the company. The collaboration will assist Core's international expansion through the world-wide SpanSet Group."

Munzi Ali, managing director of CoreRFID, said: "SpanSet has been a customer for many years. Meanwhile CoreRFID has set its sights on international opportunities, having dominated the UK and Ireland market for years.

"With SpanSet's global presence and CoreRFID's market leading technical solution, this partnership makes complete sense. Both companies will now work together to make the CheckedOK system a global brand."

Packaging company appoints new director to lead growth plans

A SKELMERSDALE-based packaging company has appointed a new member to its senior management team to lead its ambitious growth plans.

Simon Burrow, who has joined TrakRap as commercial director, has 30 years' experience in fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) manufacturing, having previously held senior commercial roles with major organisations including Heineken, Premier Foods, Kerry Group and Rank Hovis McDougall.

He has also worked closely with household-name brands such as Bisto, Galaxy, Ambrosia and Mr Kipling, as well as several retailers' own-label brands.

In his new role at the company's site at Gorsey Place, East Gillibrands Simon will focus on positioning the TrakRap system as the go-to solution for end-of-line packaging for organisations in the FMCG sector.

Established as an alternative to shrink wrapping, the TrakRap system is a secondary packaging process that uses a lightweight, 100% recyclable polymer stretch-film to wrap products, enabling businesses to massively reduce their plastic consumption and deliver environmentally-friendly, lower-cost and energy-efficient transit and retail-ready packaging.

Simon said: "The TrakRap system for end-of-line packaging creates a tremendous opportunity for manufacturers to reduce plastic in the FMCG supply chain by around 70%, while at the same time consuming nearly 90% less power than conventional shrink-wrapping technology.

Simon Burrow who has joined Skelmersdale-based TrakRap as commercial director.

"To have been invited to lead such an important development - which will have a significant impact on plastic and CO2 reduction in our industry - is a privilege and I am looking forward to helping manufacturers and retailers take an important step forward in meeting their environmental objectives."

Chief executive of TrakRap, Martin Leeming, said: "We're thrilled to have added Simon to our growing team. He is a hugely experienced professional who knows our industry inside-out and I'm sure his customer service-led approach will open more doors for us and allow us to grow even faster."

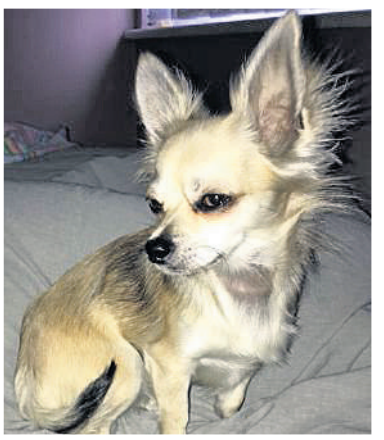
Family's plea for help to find missing pet

A FAMILY are appealing to Champion readers to help them find their missing, much-loved family pet.

The two-year-old chihuahua bitch went missing from the McCarthy family home in Tawd Road, Tanhouse some time between 4 and 5pm on Friday, November 23

Shonagh McCarthy said: "We don't know whether she has got out or whether someone has taken her but my five-year-old daughter is heartbroken - as are all the family. She's our baby."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Shonagh on 07415 068 425.



The missing chihuahua.

Foodbank donations appeal

VOLUNTEERS at Digmoor Foodbank, based at Evermoor Hub, Birleywood, Skelmersdale, are appealing for donations of food and toys to distribute to families over Christmas.

Margaret Huyton from Evermoor Hub, formerly known as Digmoor Community Centre, said that last year the foodbank was able to help 570 individuals with food and toys for the children. "It was amazing, the amount of people who came forward and donated," she said.

Donations can be dropped off at the collection point at Skelmersdale's Asda store on Ingram,or at the Evermoor Hub.

For more details call 01695 727483.

Day has sights on rival's title after stoppage success

SKEM super-lightweight boxer Colin 'Dayo' Day made it six wins out of seven bouts as a pro with an impressive performance in his latest fight at Liverpool's Olympia Stadium.

Taking on the up-and-coming Tom McGuinness, who went into the contest boasting a 100% record after seven fights, Day triumphed by a stoppage in the seventh round.

That success put the 28-year-old in the top 20 in the country and possibly in line for a crack at local rival Steve Brogan's Central Area title

Pupils sample 'big stage experience'

PUPILS at Our Lady Queen of Peace school in Skelmersdale have been experiencing what it is like to perform on the big stage by taking part in its annual Introducing Concert.

Andy Longden, head of performing arts at the school commented: "This concert is designed to introduce the new Year 7 learners to performing on the big stage and for the more seasoned performer, in Years 8 to 11 to further 'cement' themselves as exceptional live musicians and vocalists.

"With a full sound rig, live instruments and a lighting set-up that would not be out of place on a professional stage, the night was one of the best concerts to have been held over the last few years.

"The audience was treated to acoustic performances of learners' own compositions, a variety of solo and ensemble performances across many different genres of music and, of course, the school's Session Circle whose flawless disco medley of Abba's *Gimme Gimme Gimme* and Take That's *Relight My Fire* received a standing ovation from a packed crowd."

Some of the Our Lady Queen of Peace pupils who took part in the school's annual Introducing Concert

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Hillsborough commander fails in latest bid to halt manslaughter trial

HILLSBOROUGH match commander David Duckenfield has failed in a further bid to have his prosecution for manslaughter halted.

The former South Yorkshire police chief superintendent was in command of the FA Cup semi-final at Sheffield Wednesday's stadium in 1989 which resulted in the death of 96 Liverpool fans.

The judge who will preside over Duckenfield's trial, Sir Peter Openshaw, rejected his application for a stay of prosecution, following a hearing at Preston Crown Court last week.

Now the trial, on charges of causing death by gross negligence manslaughter of 95 people attending the match between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest, is scheduled to start in Preston on January 14. Duckenfield, 73, has already pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The Crown Prosecution Service has not sought a manslaughter charge in relation to the 96th person who died, Tony Bland.

The then 18-year-old suffered critical brain injuries in the crush on the Leppings Lane terrace and was placed on life support which was turned off four years later following a court application by his family.

According to the law in 1989, a charge of manslaughter cannot be applied in relation to a person who has died longer than a year and a day after the alleged criminal acts occurred.

Former Sheffield Wednesday club secretary Graham Mackrell will stand trial at the same time as Duckenfield for alleged breaches of safety legislation.

Three other men are charged with criminal offences, which are due to be heard in September next year.

Former senior police officers Donald Denton and Alan Foster, and former South Yorkshire Police solicitor, Peter Metcalf, are charged with intent to pervert the course of justice.

New inpatient mental health unit opened

PEOPLE in Lancashire can now access mental health care, support and treatment at a new inpatient unit at Chorley.

Following a major re-development to transform ward areas, the unit at Chorley Hospital, opened by Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, has 30 beds for adults aged 18 and over and six psychiatric intensive care beds for women, providing private bedrooms and bathrooms, therapy spaces and access to garden areas.

The trust also launched its specialist perinatal mental health Mother and Baby Unit (MBU) on the same site last month.

Ribblemere is an eight- bed unit for new mothers experiencing mental illness to be cared for alongside their babies.

Lisa Moorhouse, head of operations for the Mental Health Network at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said: "We are so excited to have opened this inpatient facility here in Chorley and to be able to offer new and improved mental health services to people living in the area.

Support

"By having an inpatient mental health service in central Lancashire, it means that we can offer local people access to high-quality care and treatment closer to home.

"This is the final phase of a long-term programme of development work to reconfigure our inpatient mental health services so that people can access the support they need when they most need it."

The development has been financed by capital funding from NHS England.

Lisa Moorhouse.

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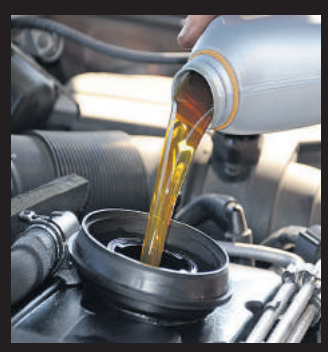

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Police launch new campaign targeting serious crime in the run-up to Christmas

Report by **Henry James**

A NEW campaign targeting four areas of serious crime has been launched by Lancashire Police ahead of Christmas.

Operation Sorbus, led by the force's Tactical Operations (TacOps) team, will focus on tackling cash-in-transit robberies, cash machine thefts, drink and drug drivers and 'Hanoi' burglaries, where expensive or high-powered vehicles are stolen from homes.

The campaign, which continues until the end of December, is aimed at detecting and preventing criminals from committing serious offences within the county.

Supintendent Julian Platt, Lancashire Police's operations manager, said: "These crimes affect businesses, the general public and homeowners. They can have a devastating impact on their victims and leave them extremely vulnerable.

"Ahead of Christmas these types of offences increase and in turn we are increasing our activity to tackle these crimes.

"We want to help deter and detect this criminal activity and bring these offenders to justice."

As part of the operation, officers from Lancashire Police's TacOps team will:

- Carry out daily vehicle stop checks across the county, both in the morning and evening. This includes drink and drug-drive testing, as well as checks on vehicles linked to criminal activity.
- Support the delivery of money to cash machines around the county. With more money in circulation ahead of Christmas, offenders are more likely to target delivery drivers and security vans. Lancashire Police will work with cash firms to prevent any robberies.
- Prevent the theft of ATM machines across the county by visiting businesses and checking CCTV, as well as providing security advice. Vehicles linked to organised crime groups and previous ATM thefts to be intercepted using the auto number plate recognition (ANPR) system.
- Patrol the borders of neighbouring forces to prevent high-powered vehicles stolen from Lancashire addresses travelling into Greater Manchester and Merseyside. Armed response officers and advanced unarmed drivers will be available at strategic locations to stop thieves driving out of the county in stolen cars.

Supintendent Julian Platt, Lancashire Police's operations manager.

Supt. Platt added: "We are determined to prevent and tackle these crimes.

Powers

"Our message to those planning on carrying out these offences - whether it be cash-in-transit robberies, ATM thefts, thefts of vehicles or drink or drug driving- is clear. We will find you and we will make sure, particularly for serious offences, you spend this Christmas and many more to come behind bars away from your family and loved ones.

"We understand some of the stop checks might be an inconvenience but we would urge you to be patient while we conduct our operation.

"We are committed to cracking down on criminals who make the lives of people a misery and we will continue to use all the powers available to us to target these criminals, prevent offences and bring those responsible to justice."

Police are asking the public to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity in the run-up to Christmas by calling Lancashire Police on 101, or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111. In an emergency always call 999.

"We are committed to cracking down on criminals who make the lives of people a misery..."

North West Euro MP Nuttall quits UKIP

NORTH West MEP, Paul Nuttall has become the latest high-profile member of the UK Independence Party (UKIP) to quit in protest over the decision to appoint controversial former English Defence League leader Tommy Robinson as an adviser.

The former history lecturer said he was leaving because the party was being taken in a direction that would be "detrimental" to their cause regarding Brexit.

His resignation follows that of fellow former leader of the party, Nigel Farage.

He said; "I will continue to serve the North West of England in the European Parliament until my term expires."

Watchdog commends county's schools

FIGURES from the Ofsted Annual Report for 2017/18 show that the vast majority of Lancashire's children and young people continue to be taught in schools that are either 'good' or 'outstanding'.

The statistics show that 92% of Lancashire primary schools have been judged to be 'good' or 'outstanding', compared to the national average of 87% and the North West average of 90%.

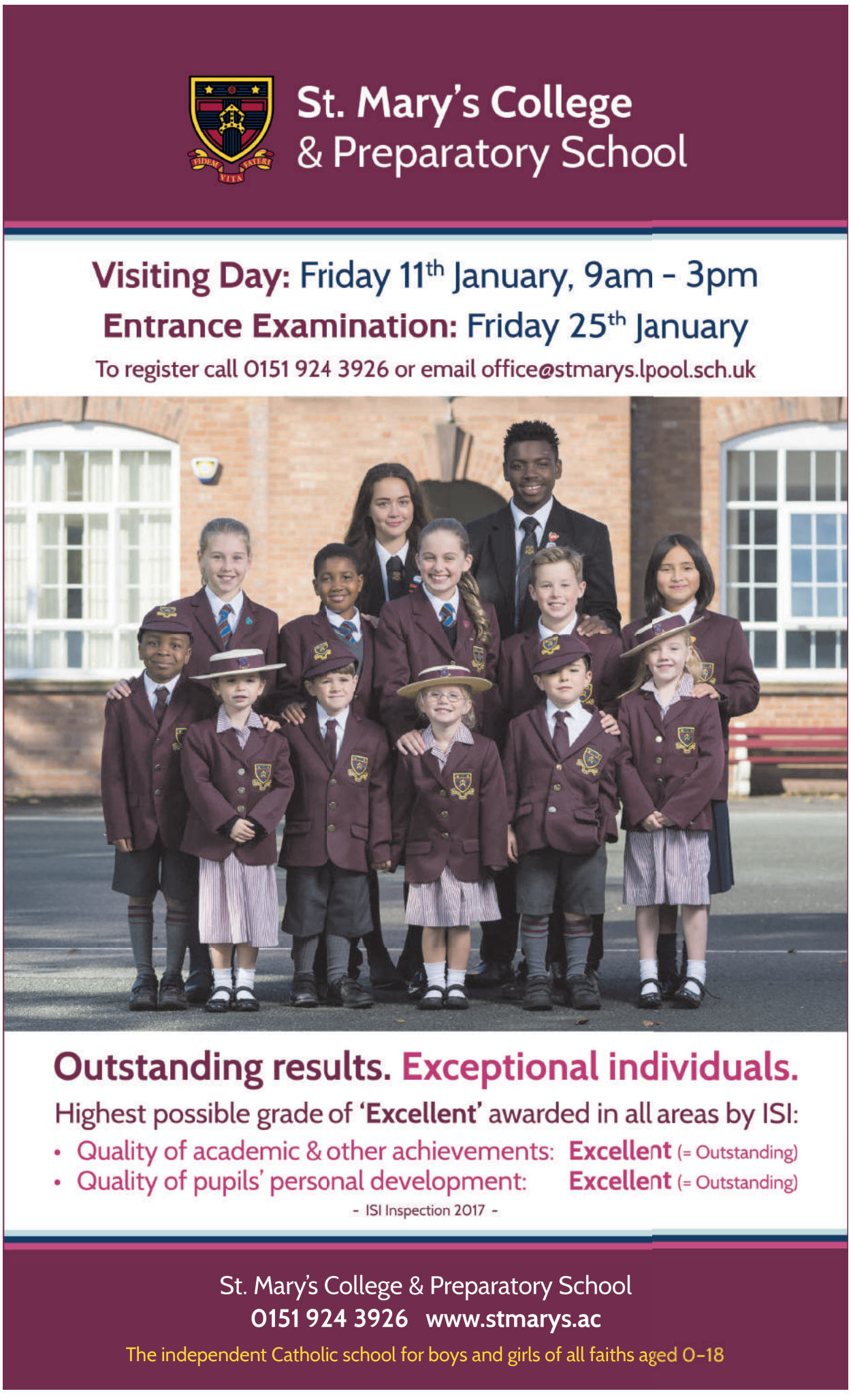
Meanwhile 73% of the county's secondary schools have been judged to be 'good' or 'outstanding' compared to the North West average of 67%.

Lancashire County Council's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, County Councillor Susie Charles, said: "Educational performance in Lancashire continues to set a high standard in the region, and compares well with the national average.

"I'm really proud of these results. They are a testament to the high quality of the teaching in our schools and the commitment of pupils and their families to learning. And they show that the overall standard of education in Lancashire is up there with the best in the region.

"We certainly won't rest on our laurels though and we'll continue to make sure that we fulfil our aim of all our pupils being able to attend a school which is rated as good or outstanding.

"We remain committed to building even further upon this achievement."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Residents can go online for updates on council services affected by weather

Up-to-the-minute information will be available on local authority's website and Twitter feed

MEMBERS of the public can stay informed about West Lancashire Borough Council services if they are affected by winter weather by visiting the authority's website at www.westlancs.gov.uk/winter or by following the council on Twitter at @WestlancsBC.

Residents and businesses can find out up-to-the-minute information if there are changes to council services - including refuse and recycling collections - due to adverse weather conditions such as heavy rain, high winds or snow.

Signing up to Twitter is free and can be done at www.twitter.com. The 'blue light' emergency services also use Twitter to give out urgent information.

The council is also urging residents to be prepared in the event of any local flooding, and to check if they need to take steps to protect their homes. Flooding can cause catastrophic damage to properties and can force people out of their homes for months.

Councillor Ian Moran.

It is the responsibility of residents to protect the property they live in, whether they own or rent their home. The council's website provides advice on where to get help about flood prevention equipment including sandbags, home insurance and information to help residents decide if they should take steps to protect their property.

There is also information about what to do if flooding occurs at www.westlancs.gov.uk/flooding and the North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee also provides really useful information on their flood hub, which can be accessed via www.thefloodhub.co.uk.

West Lancs Council leader, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "By keeping an eye on our website and following us on Twitter people will receive important updates about affected borough council Services, as soon as they happen. I would encourage people to go online to find out more about winter services.

"Homes and communities can be devastated by flooding and we urge people to go to the website, look at the flood awareness pages and consider what action they should take. Visit www.westlancs.gov.uk/flooding."

Information on services such as highways, gritting and school closures is provided by .Lancashire County Council. To find out more visit www.westlancs.gov.uk/winter.

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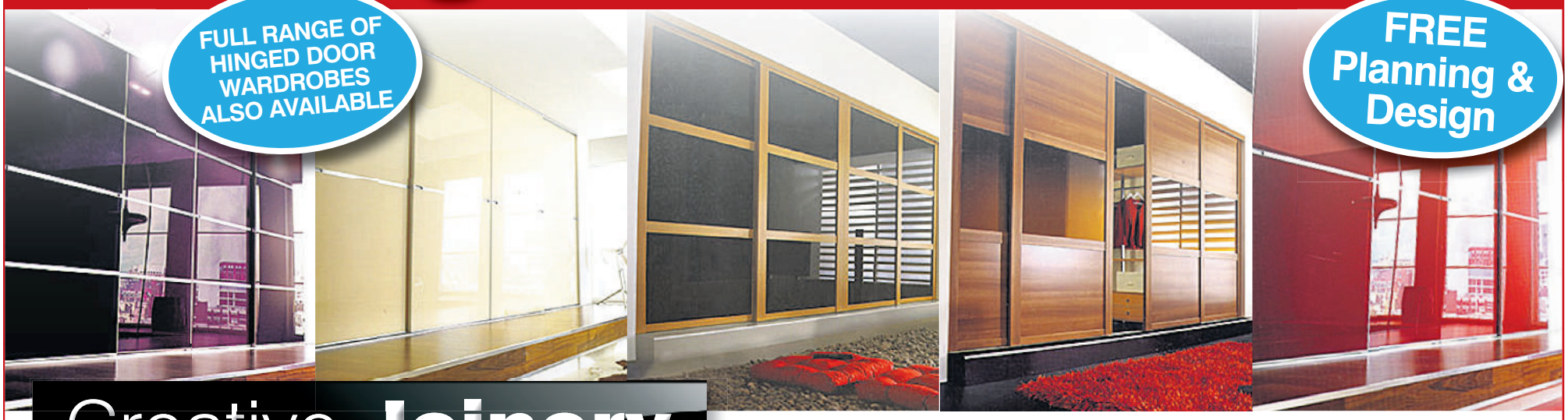

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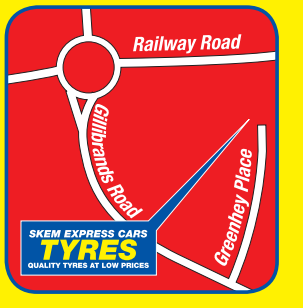

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Street light switch-off plan will put residents at risk says councillor

Report by **Kenny Parker**

LANCASHIRE County Council chiefs have been accused of potentially creating conditions where criminals can act under cover of darkness by agreeing to save money by switching off thousands of residential street lights.

Budget cut proposals designed to save the county £77m over the next four years have been approved by the authority's cabinet.

As well as measures to bring services in-house, make greater use of digital technology and efforts to keep older people out of long-term residential care, it is also proposed to turn off 18,000 out of the county's 100,000 residential street lights between midnight and 5am.

Control units will be installed as lights are replaced by new LED lights.

However the plan, which will be subject to a public consultation, has been slammed by the deputy leader of the Labour group on the county council, County Councillor John Fillis.

Councillor Fillis, who represents the Skelmersdale East ward, said: "This will mean that unspecified residential areas will be completely exposed to criminal activities under the cover of darkness for most of the night - with sheds, garages, cars and unfortunately people's homes being prime targets for the criminals."

County Councillor John Fillis.

And he compared the proposed saving of £37,000 - which he said followed cuts to police and community support officers - with the £38,000 spent on new iPhones for Conservative councillors after other councillors refused to have them.

"It's clear that the Conservatives think more of their mobile phones than they do of the safety of local people.

"All their decisions have been taken in isolation without any thought of the wider implications of their action or the overall impact on the community. This will increase the fear of crime and act as cover for the criminals."

A spokesperson for Lancashire County Council said the proposal will be considered at a full county council budget meeting in February pending a public consultation and further cabinet discussion.

Cabinet member for highways and transport, County Councillor Keith Iddon, said that the previous mobile phones supplied by the council were not fit for purpose and stressed that he pays a contribution towards the use of the phone.

And he claimed that the council was having to deal with a deficit of £200m left over from the previous Labour administration.

However, he added: "I do appreciate Councillor Fillis' comments and I have no intention of turning lights off in heavily residential estates. It will be more on the main roads that run through these areas.

"I would also emphasise we are only going out to consultation. When the officers have identified the roads where lights are going to be switched off, it will go out to consultation and come back to me and if I am not happy with that it won't go ahead."

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TOILETS at Liverpool Lime Street and Manchester Piccadilly railway stations will be free to use from Monday, December 17.

Network Rail said scrapping the 30p charge is the first passenger improvement resulting from a £15m benefits package, announced last week by rail minister Andrew Jones.

Martin Frobisher, Network Rail's managing director for the London North Western route, and Rob McIntosh, managing director for the London North Eastern & East Midlands route, said in a joint statement: "We welcome the rail minister's funding package for passengers in the north.

"We will respond to this immediately and one of the first changes will be the removal of toilet charges at Liverpool Lime Street, Manchester Piccadilly and Leeds. This is a long-overdue Christmas present for train passengers in the north."

This had been planned for April 1 2019 but it is being brought forward.

MP seeks reassurances about Diabetic Eye Screening Programme

ROSIE Cooper has sought assurances from health chiefs about the future of the Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (DESP) at Ormskirk Hospital.

The West Lancs MP says she has been contacted by a number of constituents who were concerned after seeing a sign on the hospital building saying no screenings are being carried out there at present.

Ms Cooper then contacted Virgin Care, Southport & Ormskirk Hospital Trust, West Lancashire CCG and NHS England on their behalf.

NHS England responded stating that 'there has been some IT problems with the new location' and that 'the DESP is working to resolve the IT issues and aims to resume clinics at Ormskirk by the end of December 2018.'

The MP said: "Residents are contacting me worried and seemingly uninformed of what is going on, they just turn up at the hospital and see a sign on the door telling them to go to Aintree or Southport.

Journey

"I understand from the correspondence that there are IT issues to overcome, but of greater concern to me is that patients who are due their screening are struggling to get to appointments as due to the eye drops used they shouldn't drive to the hospital.

"This leaves some residents facing an arduous and costly journey from across West Lancashire to get to Aintree University Hospital in Fazakerley.

"NHS England have now assured me that patients who are due their annual screening appointment will be provided with information about the temporary arrangements and the support to be offered to those who have problems with travelling to and from the clinics.

"Patients who may require support from patient transport will also be provided with contact details for the North West Ambulance Service."

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WANT TO KNOW WHAT OUR READERS THINK?
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Fracking firm applies for delay to drilling deadline

Action group seeks clarity from Aurora on Altcar Moss plans

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Members of fracking opposition group Moss Alliance on site at Altcar Moss.

A LEADING member of an anti-fracking group says that Aurora Energy Resources has applied for permission to delay submitting its application to frack at Altcar Moss - but that it has taken a Freedom of Infromation Request (FOI) to find out why.

The managing director of Aurora has been unavailable for comment and so has not yet responded to the claim but John Wilkinson of Moss Alliance, has questioned how open and transparent the company is after he declined to answer questions about the matter at a public meeting in November.

Moss Alliance is formed by a number of local groups opposed to fracking at Altcar Moss.

Conditions attached to the Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence (PEDL) granted to Aurora in 2014 by the Oil and Gas Authority (OGA), meant that it was supposed to have submitted a planning application by September 2018 after conducting its initial seismic surveys. A scoping request has already been submitted to and processed by Lancashire County Council.

In a letter to Aurora managing director, Ian Roche, Mr Wilkinson wrote: "It's taken a recent Freedom of Information Request to discover that you asked the OGA on September 10 for a 12-month extension to the PEDL workload deadline for submitting a planning application i.e.until September 30 2019.

"Yet you chose not to divulge this information at the public exhibition on the November 4, despite being asked about your intentions in this regard by several attendees at the event.

"At the event itself you intimated to me and others that it was 'now likely to be delayed until early in the new year'.

"In the circumstances I feel compelled to ask you whether your actions comply with UKOOG's pledge of openness, honesty, and transparency in relation to community engagement? (UKOOG is the representative body for onshore oil and gas industry.)

"It is apparent also that if the application is delayed until the end of September 2019 it is unlikely to be determined until the end of January 2020. Even assuming it is approved (a distinctly uncertain prospect) and allowing time to obtain tenders and let contracts, it is clearly impossible to complete the necessary minimum eight months of work envisaged in phases 1-2 of your development programme by the end of the second term of the licence on September 30, 2020.

"I appreciate of course that you may be intending to seek an extension to this (drill or drop) licence deadline, a prospect the OGA has so far resisted. Or you may be hoping that the Government's plans to make shale gas exploration permitted development may be approved in due course - although their priorities seem likely to be elsewhere for some time.

"In any event these latter proposals would not permit the hydraulic fracture stimulation you envisaged in your scoping request. In the circumstances I feel justified in asking you to clarify your intentions in relation to the timing of the submission of your planning application. This request is for 'relevant information' you have publicly promised to provide in relation to your project."

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Merchant Taylors' Alumni cross the Atlantic for Speech Day celebrations

Crosby Prize Winners (Grils' School): Left to right, top to bottom - Poppy Kerr, Cecilia Power, Magdalena O'Connor-Manson, Milla Kops, Dite Bagdonaite, Eleanor Sinker, Rachel Burnett, Guest Speaker Lauren McNally (Bottom Centre), Lucy Chen

Crosby Prize Winners (Boys' School): Left to right - Jack Graham, James O'Sullivan, Jack Bostock, Vandam Dinh, Rory Ellis with Guest Speaker Mark Brereton

Lauren McNally Guest Speaker

Mark Brereton Guest Speaker, presenting prizes to pupils

Mark Brereton Guest Speaker

Melissa Hennessy receiving prize from Lauren McNally

Merchant Taylors' Schools enjoy recognising the achievements of its talented and happy community and in the last few weeks did just that. Speech Day ceremonies took place at Liverpool's Royal Philharmonic Hall where both schools celebrated their pupils' successes in academic subjects and extra-curricular activities.

Old Girl and Optical Engineer for NASA, Lauren McNally, was the keynote speaker for the Senior Girls' School. Lauren talked about considering a move in to other careers before accepting a role in engineering that would eventually lead her to a job at NASA, where she is developing Deep Space Optical Communications for a Mars Helicopter, launching in 2020. She advised: "Seize every opportunity available to you as you never know where these opportunities might lead. No matter how scary, tiring or difficult something might be, keep trying and you'll do just fine."

At the Senior Boys' School event, Old Boy Mark Brereton reflected on leaving a student pilot training programme with the RAF before training as an Accountant with Pirelli Tyres. He moved his way up to Director of Accounting, a role that took him to America where he has lived for 20 years. Mark had a passion for racing motorcycles but in 2007 he crashed and broke his spine, rendering him a paraplegic. Mark focused on prospering and now scuba dives, sky dives and takes recently paralysed young people flying in helicopters. He told the boys: "It is never too early to start taking note of your dreams and working out how to turn them into reality. Make plans, see them through, but also know that life can make a mockery of your plans in an instant."

The ceremonies saw the Head Teachers, Head Girl Team, Head Boy Team and a number of Year 7 pupils talk about their own experiences, while audiences enjoyed musical and theatrical performances.

Claire Tao, Headmistress at the Senior Girls' School said: "The stories we shared and the successes we celebrated together show what a warm, talented and nurturing family we have at our school."

David Wickes, Headmaster at the Senior Boys' School added: "Events like these are perfect for celebrating what we are all about – hard work, happy pupils and seizing opportunities."

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Forward-thinking plan will bring jobs and investment to borough and address affordable housing need

THERE are some ridiculous arguments in relation to the preferred options for the New Local Plan.

Let's just get a few things straight. It is this Conservative Government who have imposed the requirement for a five-year review of a Local Plan, (due 2018), long-term strategic planning AND the duty to co-operate with neighbouring boroughs.

So what have we done in West Lancashire? We have taken the bull by the horns and through extensive research, have formulated this innovative, creative, forward-thinking plan which will bring investment and jobs to the borough and at the same time will address the need for affordable housing for our young people and also the older generations wishing to downsize, whilst also embracing the Garden Village concept

Garden villages are sensitively designed to incorporate the countryside, creating biodiversity and wildlife and putting health and wellbeing at the heart of planning new communities.

The programme will enable the development of neighbourhoods and communities that support healthier living and lifestyle, as well as creating environments in which older and vulnerable people can remain independent for longer.

Some would suggest that we just carry on with the same old piecemeal, bolt-on, soulless developments that clog up the roads, create rat runs in the villages and add nothing to the local communities that people have moaned and complained about for years.

A 30-year plan sends a clear message to central government that our council is taking a serious, long-term overview of our development needs and puts us in much better positioning for bigger infrastructure funding so new developments have as little impact on existing communities as possible.

Many areas will see infrastructure improvements. This gives us the chance to masterplan for schools, GP surgeries, rail links, shops, public transport and road systems.

Whether three 10-year plans, two 15-year plans or one 30-year plan, the needs are the same for the development of the borough.

The new 30-year Local Plan, whilst demonstrating these development needs, will only release 1.7% of our Green Belt, which would have had to be released anyway, as we have the highest percentage of Green Belt of any borough in the country. After 2050 we will still have retained 88.7% of our Green Belt. The best way to protect the Green Belt is to plan ahead strategically.

We are listening, that is why we have extended the consultation period for the preferred options to the maximum within the timeframe, (from six weeks to 10 weeks) to give the chance for everyone to have their input. Please have your input here: Localplan@westlancs.gov.uk.

What would the opposition do? I'll tell you, no alternative plan, so more piecemeal developments not fit for purpose, just more of the same old same old.

Councillor Gail Hodson.

Where will all the surplus water go when new estates are built?

AFTER a day of rain today (December 4) - not overly-heavy but lasting all day - driving past the roundabout at the bottom of Beacon Lane, Skelmersdale I had to slow right down as there was a torrent of water collected at the bottom of the hill.

Up until a year or so there were fields which would have normally soaked up any excessive rain fall.

The water was running down into Dalton Park too.

Where is all this surplus water going to go when the proposed further housing estates are built in the near future?

I believe that North West Water raised these concerns in the planning stages but the greedy planners gave permission any way.

I am not a NIMBY, as people may think, as I have no objection to building on brownfield sites, like the ones where the college was behind Ashust shops.

But when are we going to learn and actually put the environment at the top of our concerns, where it really needs to be, before we don't have anything left to leave our kids?

Building on green fields and actual Green Belt land really does need to stop. Once these beautiful spaces have been built upon that's it, there is no going back.

We are going to have flooding on a regular basis. But do the building companies care? Do they heck! They are long gone once these problems arise.

J. N., by email.

Used stamps from your cards and parcels could help RNIB

THE festive season is all about generosity and goodwill, but with a shopping list as long as your arm it can be hard to find the spare cash to support a good cause.

But this Christmas, there's a way of supporting the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) that won't cost you a penny.

All you need to do is collect used stamps from your cards and parcels and get your friends and family to do the same.

Your old stamps will be recycled and turned into much-needed funds to help the charity continue its great work breaking down the barriers facing people with sight loss across the UK.

Isolation, inequality and unemployment are still a fact of life for too many blind and partially sighted people and it's just not right.

Simply visit www.rnib.org.uk/stamps or call 0345 345 0054 to request your pre-paid envelopes, and then send your stamps to RNIB in the post - it really is that easy!

Today, 250 people will begin to lose their sight.

I can only imagine how scary that must be, but thankfully RNIB is there, providing a listening ear as well as practical and emotional support.

Please show your support for RNIB this Christmas and get collecting those stamps!

Jenny Éclair, comedian, actress and RNIB supporter.

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Send your letters to: The Editor, Champion Newspapers, Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Stick to dogs and canals, Jim!

I AM a long time fan of Jim Sharpe, enjoying his recollections of the Norfolk Broads, as I do, and love of dogs, as I do.

But his column of November 21, where he describes Prime Minister Theresa May as a lame duck and Boris Johnson as a clown, is a step too far for a provincial reporter, although I do accept freedom of speech.

Admittedly this column was written before our PM returned from Brussels with the best deal we could expect.

Please Jim, stick to what you write best about . . . dogs, canals and local issues. Leave national issues to those that show leadership and determination, aka Theresa May and her party.

Margaret Jones, by email.

Disappointed by unruly behaviour around village Christmas tree

AS a very recent incomer to the village of Tarleton, I was very disappointed to see the unruly antisocial behaviour taking place in the square with the Christmas tree in.

Items were thrown across the square within inches of the vehicles parked there; several youths were seen racing around the square on unlit bicycles nearly knocking us off our feet and then coming within a second of hitting a car as the driver left the square.

Are there any police or neighbourhood watch patrols in the village?

New resident, Tarleton.

PICTURE of the week

It was smiles all round as Maghull's St Andrew's C of E School's first-ever sponsored Santa Dash got underway. Proceeds from the event, part of a week of Christmas Fair activities, will go towards funding a four-day residential adventure trip for Year 6 pupils.

Picture by Martyn Snape.

We want your views

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

They should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published are asked to provide a suitable nom de plume. If not, one will be provided.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

■ ***PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.***

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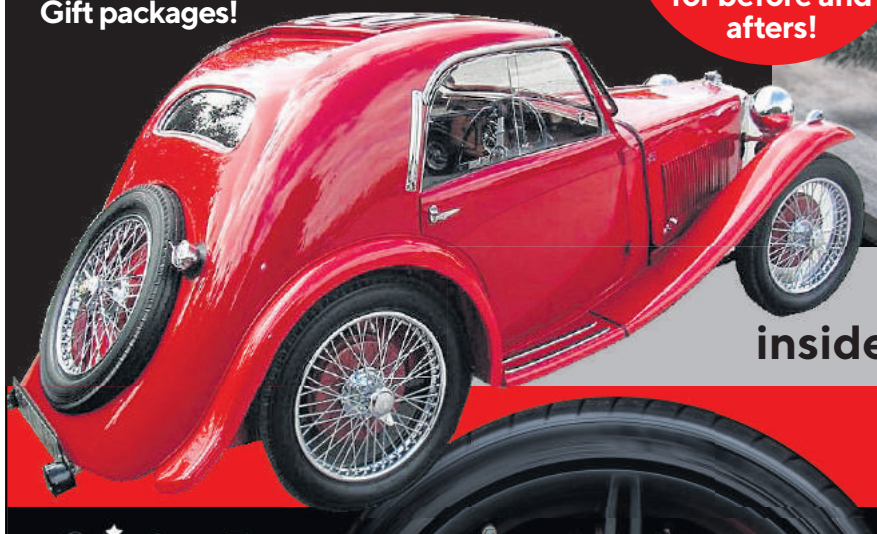

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Fuel consumption figures for the Jazz Sport 1.5 i-VTEC Manual mpg (l/100km): Urban 39.2mpg (7.2L/100km), Extra Urban 55.4mpg (5.1L/100km), Combined 47.9mpg (5.9L/100km). CO2 emissions: 133g/km. Fuel economy figures (Worldwide Harmonised Light Vehicle Test Procedure (WLTP)) for the Civic Sport Line 1.0 i-VTEC Turbo Manual mpg (l/100km): Low 37.2mpg (7.6L/100km), Medium 46.3mpg (6.1L/100km), High 53.3mpg (5.3L/100km), Extra High 44.8mpg (6.3L/100km), Combined 45.6mpg (6.2L/100km). New European Driving Cycle (NEDC) equivalent Combined CO2 emissions: 110g/km. The fuel consumption you achieve under real life driving conditions and CO2 produced will depend upon a number of factors including the accessories fitted after registration, variations in driving styles, weather conditions and vehicle load. Figures stated are based on a standardised test cycle and may not reflect real world driving, therefore they should be used for comparison purposes only. Customers should only compare vehicles tested to the same technical procedures.

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Care trust recruits apprentice number 100

LANCASHIRE Care NHS Foundation Trust has successfully recruited it's 100th apprentice as part of its commitment to providing alternative opportunities to college and university to help people develop in to long-term successful careers.

Undertaking an apprenticeship at the trust provides people with the chance to do what they believe in, whilst making a difference to the lives of the people of Lancashire and beyond.

Amy Bell, a pharmacy apprentice with the trust, says: "Choosing an apprenticeship has allowed me to develop new skills and experience in the field of work that I want my career to progress in. At school I didn't know what I wanted to do or what I wanted to be, I studied at college and went on to university, as that was the direction I was guided towards.

"However even after completing my degree, I still felt slightly lost and confused. I had come across the idea of working in pharmacy, however I didn't know how to acquire skills or gain experience in that area.

"This apprenticeship has allowed me to gain the experience and the skills that I need to further myself in the field of work that I want to work in, all whilst working on the job."

And business administration apprentice, Sohaib Naseem, commented: "I chose an apprenticeship at Lancashire Care as I wanted to gain experience of working in the NHS and a customer-facing role as this will help me in my future career. I decided that I wanted to learn more about business and chose to do this through a business admin apprenticeship so that I could gain a recognised qualification while undertaking full-time employment.

"I really enjoy working for the trust and feel well supported by my manager who helps me to prioritise my workload and is always there to answer my questions and provide advice to me whenever I need help."

Tales of village blacksmith's First World War service raise £1,500 for Poppy Appeal

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A LOCAL amateur dramatics enthusiast has raised £1,500 for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal with a series of illustrated talks about a blacksmith from West Lancashire who died in the First World War.

John Westhead, the village smithy at Newburgh, signed up at the outset of the war at the age of 42 and was based at the Lathom Remount Depot when blacksmiths and farriers were in great demand to shoe horses bound for the front.

He was later posted to France and was killed in October 1916.

Martin Jones, treasurer of the Ormskirk Pleasure Folk, came across original documents relating to John Westhead and his family while acting as executor for the estate of his grandson, also called John Westhead, in the 1960s.

And it was these documents - which Martin plans to donate to a museum - which provided the source material for a talk which he first gave at Lathom Park Chapel some two years ago entitled ***The Man Who Shod War Horses***.

The talk proved so successful that Martin has since been invited to give similar presentations to numerous other groups across the borough and as far afield as Cheshire.

It was also a feature of a fundraising event to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War at Ormskirk Civic Hall, along with songs from the era performed by the Pleasure Folk.

Tickets for the event sold out and the proceeds, along with contributions made at the various groups Martin has visited, made up the final £1,500 total.

Martin Jones hands over the cheque for £1,500 to Bernie McInerney representing the Poppy Appeal Fund.

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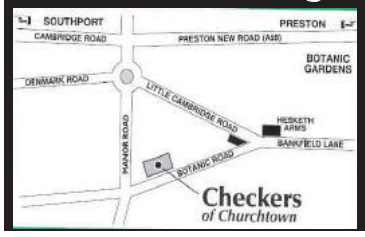

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County council accused of 'adding to budget meeting chaos' over plans to introduce on-street parking charges

Report by **Henry James**

THE Labour group on Lancashire County Council have accused the authority's Conservative leadership of "adding to the chaos" surrounding the recent budget meeting by claiming that proposals to introduce on-street parking charges - including in Ormskirk - would be part of a public consultation.

However, a press release issued by Labour points out that the minutes of the published cabinet meeting reinforce the fact that on-street parking charges would remain in the proposals NOT to be consulted on and as such work would begin on the implementation of these proposals.

The proposed charges would initially affect Ormskirk, along with Burnley, Lytham, Clitheroe, Whalley, Carnforth, Colne, Padiham, Nelson, Chorley, Cleveleys, Poulton and Great Harwood, while Lancaster and Preston would also see an increase in the number of on-street pay and display machines.

Labour group leader, County Councillor Azhar Ali, said: "This Conservative administration is in a right mess, the wheels have fallen off their budget wagon. Even the Conservative leader and his cabinet do not know what they have agreed to when it comes to budget decisions. It's clear by the minutes of the meeting that they will not be consulting with the public on the introduction of on-street parking charges.

"Highways legislation will force them to consult on the individual schemes where they intend to pick off one town at a time to cover the budget deficit. It's bad enough imposing these charges, it is even worse to attempt to mislead the public on the implementation.

"These Tory taxes on our towns will only add to the burden of our high street shops which are working very hard to keep their heads above water. We will be demanding that this goes out to full public consultation."

The leader of the county council, Councillor Geoff Driver responded: "As usual, it is County Councillor Ali who isn't aware of what is happening. The report to cabinet which was approved at the meeting on December 3 could not be clearer. LCC will consult on proposals for charging for on-street parking at specific locations before any decisions are taken."

Sara swaps education for nutrition to land dream job

A DEDICATED student who has undergone a complete career change, swapping education for nutrition, has already managed to secure her dream job after graduating from Edge Hill University.

Sara Norburn completed an undergraduate degree in Early Years Education at Edge Hill in 2010, and enjoyed her university experience so much, she returned to complete a Masters in Public Health Nutrition.

After a few years working in education, the 28-year-old from Ormskirk started teaching fitness classes in her spare time to help people who felt uncomfortable to go to the gym to get fit and feel healthier.

"I loved doing this and decided I needed to have a career change to help as many people as possible lead healthier, happier lives, so I decided to return to Edge Hill to learn more about nutrition," said Sara.

Sara Norburn

"I really enjoyed the course. It was a great balance of learning about nutrition for individuals and the effects of certain foods, to practical sessions in the lab - which was a bit nerve-racking at first as the last time I'd been in a lab was in secondary school. We also learnt about international food insecurity issues as well as local malnutrition and food bank usage."

Sara works at an occupational health and wellbeing company in Warrington, where she puts all the skills she learned on her course into practice on a daily basis.

"We are a team of life coaches that work behind the scenes on a website and app full of health and fitness information, providing a service which allows individuals to get personalised health and wellbeing advice from ourselves, as well as accessing a range of fitness videos, cookery videos and podcasts."

"Each coach has a different specialism, including fitness, psychology and health, and mine is nutrition, I'm the food coach.

"The idea behind it is that employers can purchase a service for their employees to keep everyone healthy and happy."

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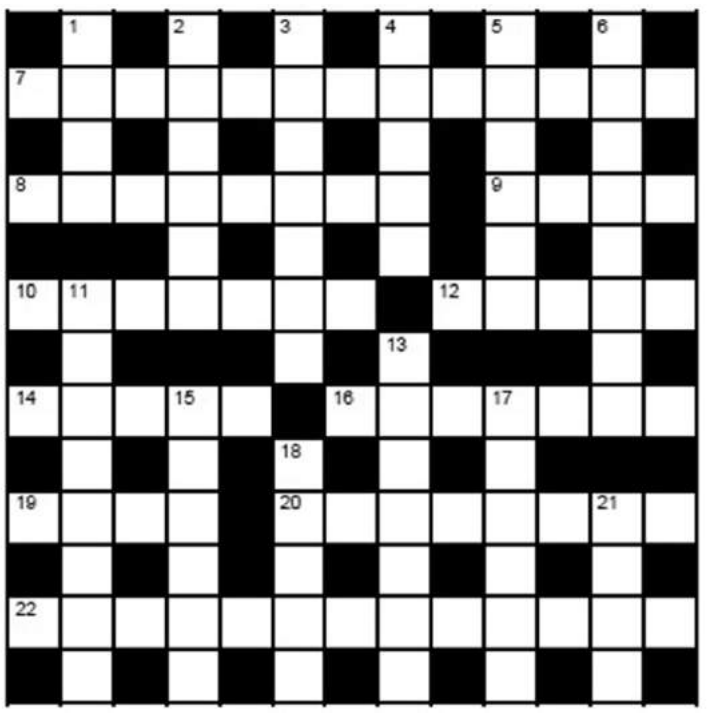

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Stolen. 8. Hiatus. 9. View. 10. Monopoly. 11. Etching. 13. Swing. 15. Tarry. 17. Rat race. 20. Warpaint. 21. Wipe. 22. Elapse. 23. Unveil.

Down: 1. Strict. 2. Slow. 3. Anemone. 4. China. 5. Man power. 6. Dubling. 12. Hornpipe. 14. Hauteur. 16. Arable. 18. Cup tie. 19 Riser. 21. Wave.

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ACROSS

7. Regular payment made by the state to people when they retire from work (3, 3, 7)
8. Solid geometrical figure with straight parallel sides and circular or oval cross section (8)
9. Sink your teeth into (4)
10. Graceful (7)
12. Smooth lustrous round structure found inside the shell of a clam or oyster and valued as a gem (5)
14. Small amount of food typically eaten between meals (5)
16. Cars specially modified to give them extra power and speed (3, 4)
19. Large water bird with long neck and usually all-white plumage (4)
20. Providing moral or intellectual instruction (8)
22. Phrase meaning in all directions or by all available means (5, 5, 3)

DOWN

1. A state formally co-operating with another for a military or other purpose (4)
2. Cover or shell that protects or encloses something (6)
3. A castrated animal, especially a male horse (7)
4. Organ that pumps the blood through the circulatory system by rhythmic contraction and dilation (5)
5. Fit for purpose (6)
6. Old English phrase meaning to be physically exhausted (3-5)
11. Type of radio frequency (4,4)
13. A supplement to a will (7)
15. Place in the middle (6)
17. Tempo (6)
18. A cat's cries (5)
21. Tidy (4)

So-called 'celebs' on TV quiz shows are a turn-off for me

TWO of the programmes I make an effort not to miss on TV are Formula 1 motor racing and Master Chef (both amateur and professional).

Now not for one minute do I think I could ever have been a Mike Hawthorn (back in my day), nor any kind of master chef - not even given Lewis Hamilton's Mercedes or the kind of kitchen enjoyed by competitors in these very different activities. No, what I gain in ambition, I certainly lose in skill in either.

But, though I can happily watch Hamilton win again and again in what is probably the best car currently on the F1 circuit, the cookery programmes affect me differently.

And while Lewis's Mercedes is somewhat out of my spending power, I could, if I so wished, buy myself a perfectly reasonable second-hand BMW, Jag or even Mercedes saloon and drive it with reasonable brio without difficulty. But the same doesn't apply when it comes to restaurant standard cooking.

Sure, a posh and spacious kitchen would help, but though I count myself a pretty good cook, I'd challenge any of the Master Chef contestants to reproduce their winning dishes on the average, or even far better than average, budget.

Have you seen the ingredients they pick up with gay abandon in the TV studio kitchen? Not just the meat (best cuts of beef, lamb, and various exotica) but the vast variety of veg, condiments and various liquids, spices and different types of butter - you name it, they use it.

Going back to my recent piece about the difficulty we folk who live alone experience when it comes to food buying in small quantities, can you imagine the number of open packs and containers that would be lying waste around the larder? And the quantities of meat that get 'trimmed off' for just one dish would provide the likes of me with a full meal in themselves.

Anyway, back to the real world again (and why do chefs and commentators refer to 'sauces' when they mean old-fashioned gravy?) one thing I find irritating in cookery programmes is the constant harping on about the 'presentation' of the food.

I'm not suggesting food should simply be tipped onto the plate any old how - though even then if it tasted good I'd gladly eat it - but do 'ordinary' people really want their cauliflower topped with ground walnuts, or foam which looks like watery shaving soap? Is it really necessary for our gastronomic delight to have our pud topped with a card-castle of wafers which has to be cleared off before the dish itself can be consumed?

Returning to TV, am I the only one who is annoyed by the modern idea of turning out quiz or skill programmes, designed for humans of various skill and intelligence levels, in 'celeb' versions? OK, the cash prizes are donated to charities, but nothing stops the production companies from making donations anyway, surely.

What this means all too often is a group of C and D list celebs making asses of themselves. Comedians are the worst. You are stuck with a stand-up comic well past his or her sell-by date or just never funny enough ever to have had one.

And there is always, of course, the sneaking suspicion that the salespeople in the antiques programme or the questioners in quizzes are influenced by the attention of TV cameras and the celeb and offer deals far lower than they ever would to you and me or ask questions specially dumbed down in order, hopefully to raise more for the charity and avoid the celebs' blushes.

I know some folk enjoy seeing celebs 'in the flesh' as it were, but I'm afraid I just find it annoyingly stage-managed and not as enjoyable as watching 'real'people - who could have been me!

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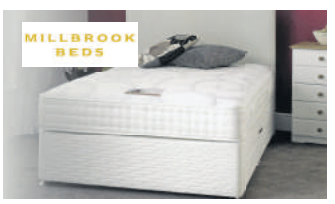

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Welcome boost for RSPCA centre

BUSINESS leaders joined forces to raise funds to help protect neglected and abused animals.

The Southport, Ormskirk and District RSPCA Centre, based in New Cut Lane, Birkdale, has received a welcome £445 boost for its vital work from the Southport Business Leaders Network.

The money was raised from ticket sales and a raffle and auction at one of the network's monthly meetings, hosted by solicitors, Birchall Blackburn Law.

Jude Storer from the centre said: "With Christmas and winter approaching it's our busiest time and donations like this are vital. The money will go towards food and the care of our animals.

"We deal with more than 350 animals a year and it costs £365,000 a year to run the centre. Without local businesses' help the animals would have nowhere else to go. We rely upon donations, revenue from our charity shop, the public's generous support and local fundraising events."

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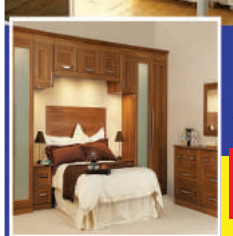

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Information evening for potential foster carers

Report by **Henry James**

LANCASHIRE County Council is holding another of its information evenings for people thinking about becoming a foster carer.

The event will be held on Wednesday, December 19 at County Hall, Fishergate Hill, Preston, from 6 to 7.30pm.

Members of Lancashire County Council's fostering team, as well as social workers and current foster carers, will be available to answer questions, talk people through the process, and offer advice.

The county council has recently increased the allowances payable to new foster carers, so now they can expect to receive between £241 and £300 per week for each child they care for.

People who have considered fostering before, but weren't sure they could afford it, are advised to go along to the information evening to find out if it could now be a viable option.

County Councillor Susie Charles, Lancashire's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "With around 20 Lancashire children needing homes each week, we need to recruit new foster carers.

County Councillor Susie Charles.

"We have increased our allowances to foster carers in recognition of their valuable role in providing loving homes for the children in our care. There is also a rising demand for placements with more children and young people coming into the care of the local authority each week.

"We are looking for people who can foster all ages of children, particularly siblings who need to stay together, and teenagers. No formal experience or qualifications are needed, all we ask is that you have a spare room available and a desire to make a difference to a local child's life."

A package of support is available 24/7 to help foster carers in their role, including local support groups, their own social worker, a dedicated helpline and flexible training.

If you're unable to attend on the night you can call the fostering recruitment team on 0300 123 6723 or visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/fostering.

There is no need to book for the fostering information evening, you can just turn up, but anyone planning to go is asked to arrive early.

Free parking is available on the Arthur Street car park, next to County Hall, and the Pitt Street entrance is accessible for disabled people.

Call for knitters to support Age UK campaign

KEEN knitters are being urged to get clicking again to help an older people's charity.

Age UK has once again teamed up with drinks manufacturer, Innocent, to host their 15th Big Knit challenge, making small hats to adorn the company's smoothie bottles.

For each be-hatted smoothie sold, Innocent will donate 25p to help Age UK fund national and local projects to keep older people warm and well in winter.

Teri Stephenson, chief officer of Age UK Lancashire, said: "We need the people of Lancashire to help knit as many miniature hats as possible this winter to help us hit our 5,000 target..

"The money raised will make a big difference to the lives of older people by funding our hugely important services including offering information and advice to help older people access financial support and provide opportunities to socialise and keep active."

For more information contact Age UK Lancashire on 0300 303 1234 or visit www.ageuklancs.org.uk

Completed hats can be sent to Age UK Lancashire at Suite 22, Railway House, Railway Road, Chorley, PR6 0HW, or your nearest Age UK Lancashire shop, office or centre.

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School nativities are in full swing... but danger could be in the manger!

SCHOOLS across the borough are busy preparing for their nativity plays with rehearsals in full swing ready for the big opening night (or afternoon) production.

It's the time of year when every parent enjoys watching their little darlings perform in the school nativity play but in recent years it has become something of a legal minefield.

It used to be that the show was documented by hundreds of proud parents snapping away on their cameras, but more recently school politics and privacy issues have come into play, with some schools ruling that it is unacceptable to take pictures or videos of the show.

But what is the legal position when it comes to videos and photographs of school events?

Are schools able to impose a blanket ban? If you ignore the school's photography policy, what legal action can they take against you? And if another parent shares a group shot featuring your child, without permission, can you force them to take it down?

Anthony Di Palma, solicitor at DAS Law in Manhester, looks at the photographic minefield that is the school nativity play and offers some general guidance on commonly asked questions.

My child's school has a photography policy which states that there is a blanket ban on taking photos at the nativity play. Is this legal?

Any owner of private property may restrict the use of photography or video equipment on the premises. If ignored, you may be asked to leave and may be deemed to be trespassing if you refuse.

I signed my child's schools consent form stating I won't take any photos. What legal ramifications will I face should I choose to ignore the policy?

The consent form is unlikely to be legally enforceable as a contract if there is no financial loss to the school, and there are no laws generally against taking photographs of your own or other people's children as long as the photographs are not deemed 'indecent', or are likely to have the effect of harming or harassing the children.

Are there any laws against sharing group shots of my child's nativity play photos online?

As best practice, it is advisable that parents should avoid sharing photographs of children without obtaining prior consent of that child's parent or guardian. However, as long as the photographs are not deemed 'indecent', or are likely to have the effect of harming or harassing them, then there is nothing legally stopping you from doing so.

What legal action can I take against people that share group photos of the school nativity play on social media that include my child without my permission?

You can ask the person to remove the photograph, however if they refuse there is no realistic legal action you can take. Privacy laws under the Human Rights Act cannot be enforced against other private individuals and unless you own the copyright in the photograph, or the image is offensive or indecent, then the social media site has no obligation to remove that photo if it is reported to them.

If I blur out other children's faces can I share school play photos online?

You don't have to blur out children's faces in order to share them online, as the Data Protection Act doesn't apply to photographs taken for private use and which do not identify the child (i.e. name them). However, if you would be concerned about images of your own child appearing without your permission, blurring out other children's faces may be a sensible step to take.

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Church Services in Southport

St Peter's Church
Christmas Services

Sunday 16th December
10.45am : Family Communion with Children's Nativity
6pm : Carols by Candelight

Christmas Eve
4:00pm : Christingle - *Start Christmas with all the family*
11.30pm : First Communion of Christmas

Christmas Day
10:00am Family Communion
Bring a present to show

#FollowTheStar St Peter's Road, Birkdale

Christmas Services
At Victoria Methodist Church
197 Sussex Road, Southport

Tuesday December 18th - 5.30pm
Messy Church
For children and their carers to make, eat and celebrate The Christmas story together

Sunday December 23rd - 10.45am
Carol Service

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Christmas Day - 10am
Come and join the celebration!

www.victoriamethodistchurch.org.uk

St Francis of Assisi
68 Folkstone Road, Southport

Sunday 23rd December
4pm Carol Service by candlelight

Christmas Eve
11pm Holy Communion for Christmas

Christmas Day
9am Holy Communion

ALL WELCOME

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
www.gracebaptist.org.uk

Sunday 16 December, 10.30am
Families' Carol Service
Followed by mince pies and hot drinks

Sunday 23 December, 6.15pm
Traditional Carol Service
With Carols and Bible readings from the Christmas story
Followed by mince pies and hot drinks

Christmas Eve, 11.15pm
Carols 'til Midnight

Christmas Day, 10.30am
Christmas Morning Service

Grace Baptist Church, Princes Street, Southport, PR8 1EG

GRACE

info@gracebaptist.org.uk

Ainsdale Evangelical Church
Christmas Service
Sunday 16th December 10.30am
- Childrens activities and stories
- Carols • Scripture readings
- Short preaching session for adults

Come and join us for a happy family service with the vital truth of the Christian Gospel message

Waca Recreation Centre
Orchard Lane PR8 3RG

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE Church
(First Church of Christ, Scientist at **9 Lord St West, Southport**)

Warmly invites you to join them over the Christmas period for
Sunday Service & Sunday School at 11am
Also Wed meetings at 2pm
(not Boxing Day)

Peace on earth, Goodwill to all men

Christmas Services
at Hesketh Bank Christian Centre
Moss Lane, Hesketh Bank

Sunday 16th December 10.30am
Family Celebration: Toy Service

Friday 21st December 6pm
Joint Churches Live Nativity with Hesketh Bank Silver Band and Live Donkey

Sunday 23rd December 4.30pm
Advent Carol Service:
Carols, readings and reflections

Tuesday 25th December 10.30pm
Christmas Morning Family Service
Please come and join us

All Saints Church
Rawlinson Road, Southport

Sunday 23rd December
10am Christmas Praise

Christmas Day 25th December
10am Holy Communion with Carols

Sunday 30th December
3.30pm Celebrate 2018

Sunday 6th January 2019
10am The First Communion of 2019

ALL WELCOME

CHRISTMAS FOR ALL THE FAMILY
at Scarisbrick New Road Baptist Church

Thursday 20th December: 3.30pm
Carols Around The Tree
Carols, activities and mince pies - perfect for after school, so why not pop in?

Christmas Eve: 6.30pma
Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Day: 10.30am
Jesus's Birthday Celebration

We would love you to join us this Christmas!

Lord Street West, United Church
Lord Street West, Southport

Sunday 16th December 10.45am
Carol Service with Christmas music from the choir
Sunday 23rd December 10.45am
Sunday Worship and holy communion
Monday 24th December 11.30pm
Christmas Eve Communion Service
Tuesday 25th December 10am
Family Worship for Christmas Day
Sunday 30th December 10.45am
Sunday Worship
Sunday 6th January 10.45am
Worship including Methodist Covenant Service
ALL WELCOME

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Church Services in Maghull

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
in Maghull and Melling

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Christingle and Nativity for all the Family
Christmas Eve 24th December 11.30pm
Midnight Holy Communion
Christmas begins here
Christmas Day 25th December 10am
Christmas Celebration

Green Park St James, Maghull
(next to St John Bosco School)
Sunday 23rd December: 11.15 am
Singing Knitivity - The story of Christmas with knitted nativity, carols plus refreshments
Christmas Day: 25th December 10am
Christmas Celebration with Holy Communion

St Peters, Moorhey Road, Maghull
(opposite Hudson School)
Christmas Eve 24th December 4pm
Carols by Candlelight followed by refreshments
Christmas Day 25th December 11.15am
Christmas Celebration with Holy Communion

St Thomas, Rock Lane, Melling
Saturday 22nd December 6.30pm
Carols by Candlelight
Christmas Eve 24th December 4.30pm
Crib Service (Children are invited to come dressed as Shepherds and Angels)
Christmas Day 25th December 10am
Christmas Holy Communion Celebration

ST. GEORGE'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

NORTHWAY, MAGHULL, L31 7BG
(Between Liverpool Road South and Hall Lane)
(www.maghullurc.org.uk)

SUNDAY 23rd DECEMBER
11.00 a.m.
SERVICE TO CELEBRATE THE COMING OF CHRISTMAS

TUESDAY 25th DECEMBER
10.00 a.m.
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Maghull Methodist Church
Liverpool Road North, Maghull L31 2HP

Christmas Services

Christmas Carol Service
Sunday 16th Dec *at 6.30pm*

First Holy Communion of Christmas
Monday 24th Dec *at 7.30pm*

Christmas Morning Worship
Tuesday 25th Dec *at 10.30am*

Christmas
at Maghull Baptist Church
Hall Lane, Maghull

SUNDAY 16TH DECEMBER 6:30pm
Carols @ Costa, the Square, Maghull

SUNDAY 23RD DECEMBER 10:30
Scratch Nativity
come dressed as your fave Nativity character

SUNDAY 23RD DECEMBER 4:30pm
Carol Service with the Melling Gospel Choir

CHRISTMAS DAY 10:30
Christmas Service
Bring your presents as we celebrate the birth of Jesus

Maghull Chapel
Foxhouse Lane

Services this Christmas

SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICES THROUGHOUT DECEMBER
starting at 10.30am,
will explore the subject of
"Angels - Then & Now"

Sunday 23rd December - 4pm
Family Carol Service,
Nativity & Christingle
followed by refreshments

Tuesday 25th December - 10.30am
Christmas Family Service

Church Services in Ormskirk & Skelmersdale

The Catholic Parish of St Richard, Skelmersdale
St Mary Queen of Apostles and St Francis of Assisi

Wednesday 19th December

7.30pm: **Carol Service** *(St Richards, Old Skelmersdale)*

Christmas Eve

7.30pm: **Vigil Mass - First Mass of Christmas** *(St Marys, Ashurst)*

12.00am: **Midnight Mass** *(St Richards, Old Skelmersdale)*

Christmas Day

9am: **Dawn Mass** *(St Richards, Old Skelmersdale)*

11am: **Christmas Day Mass** *(St Francis of Assisi, Digmoor)*

For more information contact Parish Office 01695 720095
or visit www.strichard-skelmersdale.org.uk

CHRISTMAS SERVICES ORMSKIRK PARISH CHURCH

New Church House, Church Street, Ormskirk L39 3RD

Dec 16th 6:30pm Carols by Candlelight
Dec 23rd 9:30am Holy Communion
11:00am Informal Morning Service
Christmas Eve 24th Dec
6:00pm Children's Nativity Service
11:30pm Holy Communion
Christmas Day 25th Dec
10:30am Family Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS SERVICES LATHOM PARK CHAPEL

Hall Lane, Lathom L39 4UP

Dec 23rd 4:00pm: Carols by Candlelight
Dec 25th 10:30am Family Holy Communion
Dec 31st 11:00am BCP Holy Communion

#FollowTheStar

Join us this Christmas at St Johns

Sunday 16th December
11am Carols & Nativity Service
(Come along as your favourite nativity character)
7pm Carols by Candlelight

Tuesday 18th December
10.30am Christmas Service

Sunday 23rd December
9am Holy Communion with Carols
11am Contemporary Worship
7pm Blue Christmas Service
(a special service for the stressed, lonely and hurting)

Monday 24th December
4pm Christingle • 6pm Christingle
11pm Holy Communion

Christmas Day
10am Holy Communion

Sunday 30th December
10am Holy Communion
(6.30pm service at Crabtree every Sunday as usual)

www.stjohns-burscough.org
School Lane, Burscough, Ormskirk L40 4AE

Something to Celebrate?
Place your notice online at
www.champnews.com

Emmanuel Methodist United Reformed Church

NB. Due to refurbishment in church, all services will take place at Langham Hall (situated behind the church)

Sunday 16th December
10.30am **NATIVITY SERVICE**
Sunday 23rd December
10.30am **SERVICE**
6.30pm **CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE**
Monday 24th December
11.30pm **CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY COMMUNION**
Tuesday 25th December
10.00am **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**

Derby Street, Ormskirk, Lancashire
01695 573227
www.emmanuelchurchormskirk.org.uk

St Michael's Church, Aughton
CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Some of our fondest childhood memories include singing carols at Christmas. We hope you can join us at some of our Christmas services this year.

Sunday 16th December
10.30am: **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**
This service is an opportunity to raise funds for the Children's Society, while lighting our Christingles to remind us of Christ's light in the world.

Sunday 23rd December
4pm: **FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**
We sing traditional carols while listening to the story of Christmas told by bible readings.

Christmas Eve
4pm: **CRIB SERVICE**
This is a wonderful service for children of all ages.
Make this service part of your family tradition before returning home to hang the stockings!
11.30pm: **MIDNIGHT COMMUNION**
A mystical time when we welcome the Christ child and Christmas begins.

Christmas Day
HOLY COMMUNION at 8.15am
FAMILY COMMUNION at 10.30am
The most anticipated of days, we celebrate by singing carols. Children are invited to bring one of their new toys to the 10.30am service, to show everyone what they got for Christmas.

Aughton Park Baptist Church
Long Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk L39 5BZ

Christmas Services

Christmas Holiday Bible Club (age 4-11)
Tue 18th Dec from 5.30pm – 7.30pm
Food, games and Christmas Story, "Follow The Star".
To register, or for more information:
E-mail: apbcyouthgroups@gmail.com
Phone Maria on 0151 531 7354

Christmas Carol Service (with choir)
Fri 21st Dec at 7.30pm
Service followed by tea/coffee and mince pies

Sunday Services
Sun 23rd Dec:
11am – Morning service
6.30pm – Evening service

Christmas Day
10.45-11.30am – Family service

www.aughtonparkbaptistchurch.org

Christmas Services
at St Marks Church & Bescar Lane Methodist

17th and 24th December 9.00am each Monday morning through Advent
Half an hour QUIET REFLECTIVE TIME at St Marks
Saturday 15th December Between 4-6pm
CHILDREN AND FAMILY MESSY CHURCH Bescar Lane Methodist
Sunday 16th December 4.00pm
LESSONS AND CAROLS BY CANDLIGHT ST MARKS
Followed by Mince Pies and tea and coffee in the Parish Hall
Sunday 23rd December
CAROL SERVICE Bescar Lane Methodist Church
Monday 24th December
4.00pm **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** St Marks
11.30pm **MIDNIGHT HOLY COMMUNION** St Marks
Tuesday 25th December
9.30am **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE - THE GOOD SHEPHERD**
9.00am **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE** Bescar Lane Methodist Church
Sunday 30th December 10.30am
JOINT SERVICE with St Marks Church at Bescar Lane Methodist Church

St Marks Church, Southport Road, Scarisbrick L40 9RE • www.stmarkschurchscarisbrick.co.uk
Bescar Lane Methodist Church, 10 Bescar Lane, Scarisbrick L40 9QN

ALL WELCOME!
Skelmersdale Baptist Church
Keep Christ in CHRISTMAS
Sunday 23rd December Carol Service – 11.00am
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – 6.00pm
Christmas Day Service – 10.00am
Skelmersdale Baptist Church,
43 Flimby, Birchgreen, WN8 6PD.
T: 07580 163959 | www.skembaptist.co.uk

Champion ENTERTAINMENT

NEWS DESK · 01704 392 400
www.champnews.com

Society presenting evening of Festive Light Music

THE orchestra and choir of Ormskirk Music Society present an evening of Festive Light Music and Carols on Saturday, December 22 at 7.30pm at Ormskirk School.

Carols will abound, with a number of beautiful choral arrangements sung by the choir, and plenty of audience carols, backed by a full orchestra.

The programme also includes a festive selection of Light orchestral music. The form was especially popular during the formative years of radio broadcasting, with stations such as the BBC Light Programme featuring a playlist largely consisting of light compositions.

Leroy Anderson, described as "one of the great American masters of light orchestral music" provides the centre-piece: his orchestrated Christmas Festival medley of popular Christmas Carols, with choir, joined by the effervescent Belle of the Ball and audience favourite: Sleigh Ride.

The orchestra will also play André Messager's sparkling Ballet Suite: The Two Pigeons, and several other fun, short pieces, familiar to radio listeners.

Tickets are available online from TicketSource.co.uk, in advance from Catherine Ness (01695 556548 or catherine.oms@btinternet.com) or on the door priced at £10, £5 for under-18s and students. For more information, visit ormskirkmusicsociety.org.uk or Facebook facebook.com/OrmskirkMusicSociety.

henry.james@champnews.com

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Head judge in pantomime

BBC'S Strictly Come Dancing's Shirley Ballas head judge is getting ready to lead the cast of this year's pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk, at the Liverpool Empire.

She will be joined by funny man John Evans as Simple Simon in the show from this Friday (December 14).

Having danced since the age of seven, Shirley has taken the dancing world by storm. She is three time 'British Open to the World' Latin American Champion, ten-time US Latin American Champion, and multiple-times British National Champion.

By 21, Shirley had won nearly every major title she competed in worldwide. She is the only person to have ever won the British Open to the World Latin American Championships in Blackpool with two different partners and reached the finals an impressive 17 times.

Shirley still remains the youngest ever female to reach the British Open to the World Dance Championship finals.

Since hanging up her competition heels 20 years ago, Shirley has gone on to forge a hugely successful career as one of the top Ballroom and Latin teachers and adjudicators in the world.

She appeared on the hit series Dancing With The Stars (the US version of Strictly), where she gave masterclasses and commentary on the shows.

Shirley has been a huge hit on Strictly Come Dancing.

The Wallasey-born 'Queen of Latin' will star as Mother Nature, and help Jack outwit the evil Giant and win fame, fortune and the hand of the girl he loves.

Joining her as Simple Simon will be John Evans, back for a second year after wowing audiences with his comedy in last year's pantomime, Cinderella. John's clever comedy has taken him across the world, entertaining the British Forces on a number of occasions, as well as becoming a firm favourite with the world's major cruise lines.

Southport Dramatic Club
The SDC's Fantastic Family Pantomime
Cinderella
Directed by
Kate Miles-Roberts
20th December 2018 -
6th January 2019
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Southport Dramatic Club
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ANIMAL SANCTUARY Woodlands
WINTER WONDERLAND
OPEN EVENT
Saturday 15th December 2pm-6pm
Join us at Woodlands Animal Sanctuary for our BIGGEST event of the year!
• Stalls Galore
• Meet Santa
• Kids Games
• Farmyard Feeds
• Fun Dog Show
• Rufford C of E School Choir and more...
£3 Adults £1.50 Children
Web: animalsanctuary.org.uk
Tel:01704 823 293
Follow us un Facebook facebook.com/Woodlands
Reg Charity: 1108626 All events are subject to cancellation

Family show at Atkinson

DEAR Santa, the festive family show brings to life the book from the author of the well-loved children's book Dear Zoo, Rod Campbell.

It comes to The Atkinson from today (Wednesday, December 12) until Saturday, December 19.

Santa is determined to deliver the most fantastic Christmas present to the little hero Sarah. But he doesn't get it right straight away! With the help of his cheeky Elf, he finally settles on something 'perfect', just in time for Christmas Eve.

Celebrate in Style this Christmas

Monday 31st December

New Years Eve

Gala Dinner

with Chris Stewart

The King of Swing & Rock n Roll

£70pp incl Prosecco and
Canapés from 8pm,
6 Course Dinner & Entertainment
Carriages by 1am

Early Menu £26pp
Served from 5pm - Carriages by 7pm

NO PARTY TOO BIG OR SMALL

Festive Party Menus
from £17 per person
Call for more details

Why not TREAT THE FAMILY
after Christmas shopping to a fabulous

Traditional 2-Course Sunday Lunch
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Available from 12 noon

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www.ruffordarms.com Rufford Arms Hotel @ruffordarms

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BIKES

BLACK MENS ROAD BIKE Perfect condition. Stored in a garage so no rust. £30o.n.o 0151 9360507

GOCART Kettler Pedal Go Kart red 3-6 yrs ex con, £45 ono 07752554424 01695571930

BIKE 5/8YRS Halfords MotorbikeMXR450 excellent condition with full face helmet & stabilisers - £75 ono 01695571930 or 07752554424

BIKE 18SPEED 18 gears dual suspension very comfy ride £40ono 07741206449

ELECTRIC SCOOTER Razor E100 Red Excellent Condition £70 07787323036

BMX MONGOOSE Blue 20 inch with stunt pegs Excellent Condition £80 07787323036

MEN'S BIKE Halfords Apollo Phaze MTB 14. Excellent condition. Stored indoors at all times. £70 ono. 07578181353

MOUNTAIN BIKE Diamond Back Vectra Sport. 16" Frame. 24 Shimano Acera Gears. Suspension Forks. £65.00 includes 2 Spare Tyres & Inner tube.(Tarleton Area) 01772 437101

CLOTHING

LADIES BOOTS black knee high very soft leather, size 7 - new unworn, small heel, original cost £89 in perfect condition £20 01695424797

LADIES BOOTS knee high very soft leather, Brown size 7 as new, un-worn - perfect condition. Original cost £79, sell for £20 01695424797

LADIES COAT Ladies black leather long coat, size 12, belt included, new condition, £35 01695421379

LADIES BOOTS Italian leather boots, laced back, navy, size 6, heel length: 4 inch stiletto, never worn. £35 01695421379

HANDMADE SHIRTS 3 handmade shirts, size 16 collar, new condition. Also 2 YSL shirts size 16 collar, new condition. £6 each. 01695421379

MINK COAT Ladies full length pastel mink coat, size 18, as new. £350. 01704 530137

MENS JOGGERS Grey tracksuit, Navy joggers (never worn) charcoal joggers and polo shirt. all size small. £15 0151 9321725

BRIDESMAID DRESSES two both size 12. Dark Peach 3/4 length with plait detail around neckline. £15 each 0151 9321725

CLOTHING

CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN Genuine Louboutin black leather ankle boots. Size 6. Excellent Condition. Hardly worn. All original packaging. £350 ono. 07790 898275

MANS OUTDOOR M&S Autograph outdoor jacket, Black medium. Multi pockets & fold away hood. As purchased. Cost £89 accept £22 07966101288

ELISA CAVALETTI full length jacket in dark grey fabrics . Size 10 Cost new £450 accept £30.View Ormskirk or Rufford 07966101288

TROUSERS M&S brown slim leg trousers size 14 long length new unworn £5.00 01704880047

TROUSERS M&S grey ladies size 14 trousers long length new unworn £5.00 01704880047

BOYS CLOTHES Bundle of 8 boys' tops from Boden, Next etc. Long and short sleeves. Age 6-7.good condition. £16. 07783 957954

BROWN BOOTS BNIB brown leather essence knee high boots size 7EEE faux fur trim lace detail to the back £40 collect Crosby 07769181943

MEN SHIRTS White long sleeved with tabs 16 1/2 £4 each 07425 011348

LADIES CLOTHES size 14 all excellent condition may deliver £25 ono 01515263851

MENS BROWN three quarter length coat size xxl excellent quality and condition cost £120 will accept £30 01515263851

LADIES BOOTS Knee black length boots with side bugles, worn twice, size 5 1/2. Bargain only £12 07387439004

LADIES SHOES Three pair of stiletto healed shoes, size five. All only worn once for special occasions. Nice for Christmas From £5 07387439004

LADIES COATS One white size 12 padded from Next. Wallace black winter coat size 10/12. Black three quarter new with labels. From £8 07387439004

GENTS SUIT New gents suit which still has labels on bought from Next, 36 inch waste, regular leg, jacket.Cost £130 £65 07387439004

DINNER SUIT M&S dinner suit. Jacket size medium 40" trousers 34" waist 29" leg new £175.00 only worn twice. £39. 07387439004

LADIES CLOTHES Size 22 and 24. All good makes, including Tulchan cardigan. Tops, trousers, skirt and many more. Absolute bargains. From £5 each 07387439004

LADIES JACKET faux fur (tabby colour)size 12. Make-South. With collar/without front fastenings. Dressy for Xmas-with dress/trousers. Unworn £20 07855222552

PADDED ENVELOPES over 50 used jiffy and padded different sizes ideal ebay selling save a fortune at post office recycle £5 01512870112

SKATER DRESS womens white thick short blue flowers on worn once 10 fancy self pattern to dress £10 for pic liz3611@hotmail.co.uk 01512870112

MOSCHINO TRAINERS Black size 4. Cost £110 as new. Accept £40 0151 9311974

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COMPUTING

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HOME BREW King keg 25 litre, used but in excellent condition. Bottom tap and large cap with fitting for gas cartridge. £35 07948192001

ALUMINIUM LADDERS Long Heavy Duty Extension Ladders 15 rung extending to 30 rung cost £190 will sell for £70 hardly used. 07446237647

MIRROR PANELS 2 large, heavy mirror panels, each 63.5cm x 101.5cm. £7 each or 2 for £12. Formby 01704 834827

BLACK & DECKER large workmate, vice, duel height, foldable, used but fully working, collect in ormskirk £15 07809 255966

BREAKFAST BAR L shaped Durapal Quartz stone 210x154 and 90x60cm. perfect condition 01515261555

GARDENING

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HOBBIES

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UPHOLSTERY FABRIC 8.5 mtrs beige Mulbury linen in 7 pieces. 60" wide £20. Mobile 07729681142 01704 832749

HOBBIES

UPHOLSTERY FABRIC 6 mtrs Mulbury linen 60" wide in 4 pieces. Colour biscuit. £15 Mobile 07729681142 01704 832749

YAMAHA ORGAN Electone, model EL 90 T, Double keyboard,immaculate condition, with lots of disks, stool, too many features to list. £595. 01704 530137

TRAVEL BAG Tan suede patchwork bag H35 W46 D14 cms. Never used still with labels on. £20 0151 9321725

JIGSAW PUZZLES In very good condition, 1000 piece £1.25 to £1.50 each, some Christmas themes. Email pictures available buyer collects. 01512860268

GUITARS WANTED Hofner or similar 50s or 60s guitar wanted for Merseybeat project.Anything from this era considered cash waiting 07503197071

LIVERPOOL FC Premier League Match Ball v Burnley 2017-18 season at Anfield collectors item Bargain £50 07773242918

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PENDELFIN RABBITS 2 dodger n barney few scuffs £10 good condition red shorts and blue blanket stonecroft uk 01512870112

VINTAGE MERRYTHOUGHT Hobby horse, smooth wooden frame with soft plush head, 35'' from base of wheels to top of ears £25 01704569028

VINTAGE 1950'S max factor sophisti-cat hypnotique perfume - black cat - full bottle perfume in dome make nice display for collectors VGC £15 01704 569028

TWILLEYS OF Stamford old masters cross stitch approx. 19x14in John constables The Haywain with yarn £10 01704 569028

TEDDY BEAR snowflake past times limited edition 4014/5000 Russ Berrie 18'' 2003 Edwardian style, tags attached, ideal xmas present for collector £25 01704 569028

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SANYO TV 26 inch with freeview Excellent Condition £60 07787323036

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HOUSE AND HOME

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LARGE CHUNKY VERY HEAVY SOLID LIGHT OAK MODERN DINING TABLE and matching 6 chairs with padded seats, absolute bargain £250 Tel:07790 429683

BEDROOM SET large 4 door wardrobe bedside cabinets dressing table and bed with headboard selling due to change decor£95 07741206449

FOLDING BED Coopers fold away single bed in drawers hardly used £60 I can send photo. 01772 816679

HOUSE AND HOME

ROYAL BRIERLEY Glass Vase, patterned heavy solid lead crystal vase 8" high £30 ono 07704 785755

COFFEE TABLE Rectangular glass topped with antique brass effect legs ex Marks and Spencer excellent condition £75 07751924207

GAGGIA MILANO COFFEE MACHINE Grangaggia Prestige manual espresso, Red. Model No.R18425/22. Box never opened. Unwanted prize. £160 full price,Will accept £80. Tel: 077716 35939.

UPRIGHT PIANO Boyd-London piano good condition can deliver locally £50 01704 894670

3 AND 2 SEATER SOFAS Navy Blue Leather. Good condition. Available from 19th December. £150.00 OVNO. Buyer collects.07933 690787

HOME SAUNA Cabin, 2 person, Infra red heaters, ozone purification, radio/c.d. player, l.e.d. lighting, toughened glass door, as new. £895. 01704 530137

DINING TABLE Round, 1200mm diameter, clear tempered glass with frosted lazy susan in centre, chrome pedestal, some surface scratches £30 07964703423

BEDSIDE CABINET 2 pine 3 drawer bedside cabinets £45 for the 2 07708 681331

CANVAS WARDROBE biege canvas wardrobe wooden frame 4 shelves good condition £25 ovno 07708 681331

NAO/LLADRO Beautiful figurines.Girl playing with puppy, boy with basket, girl with fan. All in perfect condition. £49 or will separate 01695423023 Aughton

WATERFORD CRYSTAL Beautiful heavy crystal highball glasses.14cms high,7cms rim diameter.One glass has tiny chip.Includes silver plated decorative tray. Lovely display £28 01695423023 Aughton

HOUSE AND HOME

MATCHING SOFA 2 seater sofa and rotating bucket seat with footrest only 4 months old black and grey plus scatter cushions £600 0151 9036538

TV UNIT Light wood 30 inch high, 22 inch deep, 16 inch deep £20 ono 07756229527

DINING TABLE Dark wood extendible round table with 4 chairs £150 ono 07756229527

DVD CARSOUL Dark wood 29 inch high, 16 wide, 17 deep. excellent condition £100 ono 07756229527

DISPLAY UNIT Dark wood 72 inch high, 18 inch deep, 56 inch wide with cut glass & lights £100 ono 07756229527

DISPLAY UNIT Dark wood 72 inch high, 36 inch wide, 18 inch deep with cut glass & lights £100 ono 07756229527

DINING TABLE Extending with 6 chairs & 2 cravers dark wood with matching display unit £300 07756229527

DINING TABLE Glass dining table 6 Leather chairs. Metal Frame and matching place settings £80 01704211459

3PIECE SUITE 2 Chairs 2 Seater Seatee Cream Material with Brown Leather Very Good Condition £275 01704 211459

GAS HOB AEG 4 burner. 3 months old, genuine reason for sale. 07949637415

VINTAGE VASES pair of pink vases 6 inches tall. Photo available £10 0151 9321725

TORQUAY WARE cups, saucers, jug, condiment set, pot and basket. £25 / 0151 9321725

TEAL CURTAINS 90 x 72 from Next. Excellent condition. £10 / 0151 9321725

DRESSING TABLE Set (vintage) in yellow glass. Tray, ring holder, candlesticks etc. 7 pieces. Photo available. £50 0151 9321725

DINNER SET M&S Chrysanthemum design 57 items includes dinner plates,cups and saucers Teapot, sugar bowl etc £130 0151 9321725

BEDDING SET King Size quilt-cover with pillowcases plus eyelet curtains 66x90 all from Next. White Grey and gold geometric pattern £35 / 0151 9321725

HOUSE AND HOME

INLAID TABLE Italian style lovely pedestal mahogany 4ft circular table which extends for dining. (Plus four gold velvet covered chairs). Hightown £150 01519292025

KITCHEN WORKTOP Mocca granite effect worktop, excellent condition, stored in thick polythene for protection 1800x600x40mm £25. Email pictures available, buyer collects. 01512860268

WHITE TABLECLOTHS 84x96 hotel quality used once for a wedding. Clean like new condition ideal for Christmas 8 available £8 each 07715498629

TOY CHEST White wooden with side metal handles. Flower pattern painted on top and front. H18 W 21 D15 inches VGC £28 01704560150

PAIR TABLES Round chipboard tables matched pair Height 62 x 50 cm diameter. Good overall condition. May deliver £18 01704560150

SKATERS POND Lemax village £30 01704 214017

CURTAINS LINED Blue 132" x 86" drop £45 01704 214017

LAMPSHADES Classic style to fit table lamp x 2 £5 each 01704 214017

DINNER TROLLEY Phillips Hostess Dinner Trolley, Two oven Shelves +4 Top Dishes With Lids,Good Condition. £40. Southport, 01704 808691

MIRROR Pine framed full length mirror. £7 01704 573196

MIRROR Dark wooden framed full length mirror. £7 01704 573196

GREY RUG Shag pile grey rug in excellent condition. 240 x 180cm. £45 ono 01704573196

KITCHEN SHELF 1/2 circle corner cabinet carousel shelf. Top shelf swivels independently. Fits 800/1000mm corner floor unit. £40 ono 01704573196

HOUSE & HOME John Lewis/Morphy Richards wooden servery 3 shelved heater cabinet with top heating surface for plates perfect working order £40ono 01695 574542

CANVAS PRINT Mid blue & aqua green. Abstract water. H&W 50cm. D 3cm. Very good condition. 01704 808024/07763000776

HOUSE AND HOME

PRINT ON canvas. Modern. Red flowered plant in terracotta vase + terracotta bowls. Light creamish background. H&W79.5cm. D2.5cm. Excellent condition. £10 01704 808024/07763000776

LARGE DESK. Beech effect. Upper curved shelf suitable for computer monitor. Has an attached pinboard. W129cm, D65cm, H74cm. Dismantled. Good condition. £25. 01704 808024/07763000776

FRAME WOODEN effect. Dark. Very large. Ornate carving. W133.5cm. 52.5". H102.5cm. 40"6. Fair condition.Small chips & scratches mainly on edges. £30 ono 01704 808024/07763000776

PORCELAIN TILES Stylish grey. Koan Waves from La Fabbrica. 26 brand new tiles 600mmX300mm (2'X1') + some large offcuts. £100. 01695 578368

INTERIOR DOOR plastic wrapped, smooth surface, white high gloss, reassuringly heavy, 4 hinges included. 67"x24"x3/4" (174cmX60cmX2cm). Excellent condition. £15. 01695 578368

FIBRE OPTIC Twig tree. Outdoor or indoor 4ft high £15 01704 894002

CABIN BED Two tone Grey similar Argos 804/2699 Dismantled buyer collects £50 01704 894002

UNDERBED STORAGE BNIB Unassembled Pine under bed storage drawer for single bed £50 collect Crosby 07769181943

SILVER FRAMED wall mirror may deliver £10 ono 01515263851

SINGLE RADIATOR white size 1750 mm by 600 mm very good condition £15 ono 01515263851

THREE SEATER setee and two chairs in dark maroon Italian leather very good quality and condition may deliver £450 ono 01515263851

STANDARD FLOOR lamp in mahogany wood with lined cream light shade excellent quality and condition from John Lewis may deliver £90 ono 01515263851

2 BOX'S 48 Mixed Baubles 96 in total Brand New 10pound Collection Only Please. 0151 2818247

HOUSE AND HOME

LIGHT UP 2 Beaded Cone Tree's 1 Red 1 Blue 30cms tall 15pound Collection Only Please. 0151 2818247

LIGHT UP Snowman Family with 30 led lights Only Used Once 15pound. Collection Only Please. 0151 2818247

LIGHT UP 2 Santa's & 2 Snowmen Thes'e have been used. 10pound Collection Only Please. 0151 2818247

CHRISTMAS TREE Fibra Optic Christmas Tree Decorated with White Petals. 80cms Tall Only Used This Once. 15pound. Collection Only Please. 0151 2818247

SLEEPING BAGS 2 traditional type, king size. Perfect condition, ideal for Christmas guests. Can be zipped together for two people. £18 for both 01695 322752

COOL BOX Thermos cool box. Clean, excellent condition. Keep your wine cool over Christmas when the fridge is full. £4 01695 322752

WOODEN CANDLESTICK Two new solid wood candlesticks, oak colour, 11" in Height Look nice on table or fireplace at Christmas. Two £6 07387439004

CHRISTMAS TREE Artificial tree, bought from John Lewis approx 5 ft tall, comes apart for easy storage bargain only £50 07941082422

CHRISTMAS TREE Bought from John Lewis approx 5ft tall, very realistic looking breaks down for easy storage bargain 07941082422

M&S Sofa 3 seat very good condition gold fabric has had little use traditional style firm cushions very comfortable £100 01704 549616

FRIDGE Fridge (type that can fit under a work surface). Good working order £10. Pick up in Tarleton. 07919532883

CORNER UNIT Mahagony corner unit with lighting. Super condition £30. Pick up near Tarleton. 07919532883

BRASS BOX Beautiful antique style small brass box, looks super by a fireplace for papers etc. £15 07919532883

FORMICA KITCHEN TABLE and three pine chairs £20 07578971772

EYELET CURTAINS W66"x-D72"-brown/beige tones/large stripe. 100% polyester/lined. Like new. Ex con. £40 07855222552

ELECTRIC LAMP for table/bedside in shape of a globe. 12" diameter. Black base. As new. Make nice xmas gift for child. £10 07855222552

COFFEE TABLE with lower shelf/medium oak/L37"D17"H18". Loose glass (same size) comes with it for surface protection VGC £30 07855222552

TABLE CLOTH (104"x63")-rose/red wine colour. Scotchgard treated. Ex size for Xmas/entertaining. Satin scalloped edging/6 matching serviettes. VGC £8 07855222552

CHAIR Brown faux leather chair and footstool swivel and recliner £30.00 Upholland area 07972857653

FOR SALE Beko washing machine 6kg 1200 spin. Perfect working order VGC £50. Must collect 01704628016

FOR SALE Harpers memory foam double bed with headboard. Bought September. Used once. Padded headboard. £150 ono 01704628016

TABLE/TROLLEY Small, oak, barley twist legs, drawer, on castors, very useful. £35 could help with delivery 0151 9281955

TEA TROLLEY wooden, sturdy, two tier, on castors for ease of movement. Very useful, especially at Christmas. £30 Could help with delivery 0151 9281955

HOUSE AND HOME

PICTURE FRAMES assortment of picture frames, different colours/sizes, offers from 50p. wide range to choose from. 07928700023

HAIR CLIPPERS Vidal Sassoon Max cordless hair clippers with comb attachments for different lengths. Ceramic blades, charger and box. £15 0794 1110621

FRAMED MIRROR New purchased from Stokers Size (Inches) 34.5x24.5 mahogany rope effect wood frame hang landscape/portrait style on adjustable chain £35 ONO 07710661636

CHRISTMAS TREE 7ft Artificial frosted green tree with real pine cones and off season storage bag £50 07525910932

PORTABLE DE-HUMIDIFIER Large size 240g, different scents, Cotton, Jasmine, Cherry, Ideal for Cupboards, Caravans, boats, Bedrooms, Motorhomes. RRP£4.99, Bargain £2.00 07980 162415

PINE ROUND table 3' diameter and 2 chairs £60 01704807548

CHEST FREEZER Curry's small chest freezer 99 litre capacity Good condition £45 01704 807548

LEATHER SOFAS 3 seater and 2 seater black leather sofas. Good condition £150 collect from Ainsdale. 01704 577685

DINING TABLE and six chairs. Marks and Spencer extending table in maple colour wood with wine colour chairs. £100 collect from Ainsdale 01704 577685

STANDARD LAMPSHADE Large,vintage, long fringed dusky pink Burscough £10 01704 893195

MISC

LADIES BOOTS 2 pair knee-high, size 7 new un-worn, one pair black, one pair brown, both perfect originally £80+, £20each 01695424797

JACK DANIEL'S No7 3oz Hip Flask and box of Playing Cards, both in stainless steel £10 07704 785755

THROWOVER BEAUTIFUL woven colourful snowy evening Christmas homecoming scene 68" by 50" immaculate, has to be seen £30 07704 785755

HILLBILLY PLUS Electric golf trolley with charger and brand new battery. Great condition. Recent full service. Bargain at £89. Southport. 07808484721

GIRLS PADDED BLUE PARKA COAT new with tags from kids cavern designer cost £110 bargain £35 age 5 07518929646

GIRLS FUR COAT and leggings new with tags pink age 5 and age 2 from kids cavern cost £114 bargain £30 07518929646

GIRLS DESIGNER RAINCOAT and hat new with tags age 4 with lining from kids cavern cost £59 bargain £20 07518929646

ADIDAS EQT TRAINERS grey size 10 worn only 2 hours as new bargain at price no offers £35 07743101819

GIRLS LADIES DESIGNER GREEN LEATHER jacket cost £128 new with tags size 8 bargain £25 no offers 1st to see will buy 07518929646

JOHN LEWIS Christmas tree shaped dish. Brand new in box. 12" x 10" at widest points 2" deep. Modern design. £7. 07815 168876

CHRISTMAS TREE 7ft X 4ft Realistic heavy quality blue green with cones. Easily assembled all colour coded metal arms. Hightown £50. 01519292025

PARTY FACE MASK A large impressive peacock feather fancy dress party mask used once. £10 01704560150

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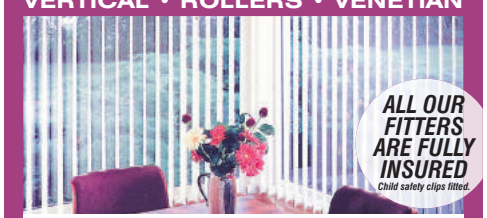

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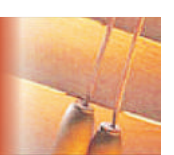
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MISC

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS 2 sets 20 indoor lights. Icicles set and coloured set. Both working and in good condition. £8 01704560150

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS 50 mainly spun silk Christmas tree hanging baubles many colours in good condition. £8 01704560150

CHRISTMAS TREE BAUBLES 32 shatterproof red and gold glitter various shapes and patterns and star shaped tinsel excellent condition £8 01704560150

MAGAZINES Best of British magazines 244 copies from the first one. only 19 missing. Great for people with Alzheimer's, Dementia. £150 07973450303

SAT NAV tom tom start,with windscreen holder,charging lead that plugs in 12v socket,in original box,instructions,collect in ormskirk,£20 07809255966

BOOKS VARIOUS Soft & hard back; fiction and non-fiction. from 50p. All, good condition. 01704 500410

SHIATSU+ MASSAGER New Homedics Shiatsu + massager with heat fits on a chair . 6 settings including spot massage . £60 07769181943

WW2 GAS Mask ARP Tin Container Red bargain £50 07773242918

QUALITY DARTBOARD and darts used afew times as used on tele bargain £15 07773242918

TAYLOR MADE Driver Burner 860 9.5 loft reg shaft head cover excellent bargain £20 07773242918

IDEAL GIFTS Numerous Christmas gifts, all new Inc hair straightener, scarfs, Next candles, cuff links, polo shirts. Much more From £4 07387439004

CHRISTMAS GIFTS At least 40, all new inc hair straightener's, gift sets, cuff links, polo shirts. Much more From £4 each 07387439004

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS Gold baulbles, me to you teddies, tinsel, large silver bells, hanging fabric advent calendar, and more. The lot. £8.00 07387439004

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS Due to down sizing, small items including table lamp's, lamp table, bedding, kitchen wear, curtains, much more. From £5 each 07387439004

GIFT ITEMS Approximately 40 new items, including hair straighteners gift sets, Next candles, Men's items. Too many to mention, from £5 each. 07387439004

COLLECTIBLE DOLL Claudia Winter Porcelain girl doll, from the Hamilton collection (341C), lovely condition. red coat and muffler nice condition. Only £10.00 07387439004

PERFUME Killer Queen Katy Perry Own The Throne 50ml Eau De Parfum spray - Brand new Sealed Box. Ideal Xmas Present. £10 01704 569028

HAIR STRAIGHTENERS With brush Brand new in box not used, 240volts, Easy to use, swivel cord, RRP £45, Ideal Present. 07980 162415

GOLD BRACELET hallmarked 9ct thick solid yellow gold 8 inches 56 grams, mans or ladies, would make very nice present £1400 01704831977

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SELF-PROPELLED wheelchair, very good condition, all usual features, can deliver £65 Southport 214498

LIGHTWEIGHT ADULT wheelchair very good condition, as new, solid tyres, folding, can deliver £65 07879087669

4 WHEELED mobility walker with seat, backrest and lockable hand brakes, can deliver £40 Southport 214498

3 WHEELED mobility walker with lockable handbrakes, adjustable height, can deliver, £30 07845529249

WALKING CANE Beautiful wooden carved walking cane, depicting a crocodile to full length of cane, made in Australia bargain only £30 07941082422

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MOTHER AND BABY

SAFETY GATES Two Mothercare safety gates. Grey metal, 73cm to 80cm, Extension for upto 96cm, can be sold separately, £10 each 07846 182639

LINDAM SAFETYGATE Lindam safety-gate, white metal, 76cm to 82cm, No need for drilling/screws, very good condition, £10. 0784 6182639

MOTHER AND BABY

BUGABOO DONKEY pram for sale in excellent condition, can be used as a twin pram or single with side shopping basket. £500. 07388047817

MCLAREN BUGGY Cath Kidson spray floral pattern with foot muff good condition £120 01704 212232

MOTORING

PUNTO TYRE Fiat Punto Grande steel wheel with 175/65 R15 radial tyre very little used.£50 07968914294

MICHELIN Hi Power tyre inflator £20 01704 214017

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DOG CAGE 30x21x19 very good condition 07425 011348

BIRD CAGE IMAC gold/brass excellent condition Size(inches) Height 25.5 Length 23.5 Width 15.5 with full accessories perches ladders feeders etc £30 ONO 077010661636

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

UK13 ADIDAS Football boots by Messi, astroturf style worn a couple of times, as new £15 01695571930 or 07752554424

CROSS TRAINER body sculpture BE6600 magnetic strider good condition £45 ovno 07708 681331

ELECTRIC GOLF Trolley with charger and brand new battery. Good condition. Bargain at only £69. Southport. 07808484721

LITHIUM GOLF Trolley battery. 18 hole brand new with full warranty. Fits all makes. Very light. Unwanted gift. Ideal Christmas present. £139 07808484721

GOLF CLUB Ladies Wilson Tri-Ply 6 iron. In excellent condition. £15. 07815 168876

POOL CUE Olympus Bronze 2 piece pool/snooker cue 57" with Riley carry case. In excellent condition. £15 no offers. 07815 168876

ANTIQUE PUTTER Wooden shaft, hide cover. Made in St Andrews. £40 01704 875561

FOOTBALL BOOTS Sondico black football boots, size 4/37, scarcely worn so almost perfect condition. £8 01704 834827

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TOYS AND GAMES

SMALL GUITAR small classical guitar suitable for beginners and children great xmas present good cond £10 01704 536891

TOYS AND GAMES

COLLECTABLE BEAR Canterbury with original tags with moving limbs, 37 inch high excellent condition £30 07756229527

THE CUBE Boxed family game, £7 07969 122625

HEXBUG AQUABOT 2.0 harbour, boxed playset. £5 07969 122625

FAMILY ALIAS Board game, boxed, as new. Fun word and picture game. £8 07969 122625

CREEPY HAND Boxed family game, as new. Ideal xmas gift for kids. £10 07969 122625

HEELIES Sidewalk Sports navy blue roller shoes, size 2 from Sports Direct, worn once, good as new. Cost £32.99, sell £15 07969 122625

DISNEY INFINITY starter pack for XBOX 360. Mr Incredible, Sully and Jack Sparrow figures, base, game disc DVD, boxed £12 07969 122625

CRYSTAL LAB National Geographic glow-in-the-dark grow your own crystals at home kit, boxed, new and unopened. £5 07969 122625

ROLLER BOOTS Children's Quad skates, boxed, red/black/silver boots, white wheels, great condition. sizes 29-32 and 33-36 both adjustable. £8 each 07969 122625

TRAMPOLINE Indoor for toddler good condition £5 01695571930or07752554424

PICTIONARY board game. As new condition. Some marks on box lid. Great game to play at Christmas! £7 07815 168876

KEVIN CARROT Kevin & Katie the Carrot plush toys 12" tall. 2018 design in xmas jumpers. Brand new with tags. £20 for both 07790 898275

TAKE FOUR Basic game in wooden presentation case. £25 01704 875561

GAMES BARREL REMY MARTIN wooden games barrel, asstd games and sections. £40 01704 875561

LARGE SELECTION BOOKS PUZZLES SOFT TOYS Disney and others. Some brand new others as brand new. Can split. £30 07966101288

MAMAS+PAPAS dolls pram includes bedding covers, purple spotty, excellent condition, smoke and pet free home, £30 ono 07762 301884

CHILDRENS JIGSAWS colourful picture map puzzles of Europe, British Isles, USA, Ireland, Africa, aged 10+, 500pc, excellent condition, £8 lot, £2 each 01704 832498

CYBERMAN SLIVERHELMET Talking and sounds cyberman helmet, used but in good condition.New batteries. Buyer collects £20 01695573147

CHILDS GUITAR Multi functional guitar with 5 different types of music. Reggie, Electro, R&B, etc.Suit age 4+,Ideal gift as new uses 2 batteries Buyer collects £15 01695573147

CHILDS GAMETABLE Multi play free game standing table. Football, Pool, Push hockey, Basket ball. Measurement to nearest inch H30, L34, D23.Can be dismantled.Good condition, Buyer collects, £35 01695 573147

ROLLER SKATES No Fear size 4 in line skates black and grey, boxed and cheap. £10 07387439004

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MAMAS PAPAS Toy pram with carry cot, and cover ideal Christmas gift only £10 07941082422

SNOOKER TABLE 6'x3' hardly used with 2 cues full set of balls scorecard & triangle buyer collects £10 07709523939

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DEATHS

PRICE MARGARET BARBARA

6th December 2018
Darling Mum

You fulfilled your dreams and travelled the world.
Now at peace with Dad forever.
We will miss you.
All our love,
Clare and John.

PRICE MARGARET BARBARA

6th December 2018

'My Beautiful Mum'

Thank you for teaching me to love unconditionally.
You will be in our thoughts and prayers everyday forever.
All our love,
Sarah, Andy,
Jack and Reuben

PRICE MARGARET BARBARA

6th December 2018

'Dearly loved Mum and Nanny'

For so long you were the heart of the family and you have left us with so many happy memories. We will always miss your beautiful smile and your loving hugs.
You'll dance on in our hearts forever.
Cathrine, Dean, Hollie, Georgia and Esme.

DALE HENRY

11th December 2018
passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family

Will be sadly missed by his loving Wife Glennys.Sons Stuart and Phillip.Daughter in Laws Claire and Andrea.Grandchildren Mica, Rebecca, Saul, Hayden, Kelly and Kevin.Great Grandchildren Ella and Luis

DEATHS

PRICE MARGARET BARBARA

6th December 2018
Peacefully in Heron Hill Care Home, Kendal,
aged 81 years
following a long illness

Beloved and cherished wife of John. Loving mother of John, Cathrine, Clare, and Sarah. Mother in law of Jeanette, Dean, John, and Andy. Nanny to Victoria and husband Joe, Jonathan and wife Jo, Liam, Meghan, Hollie, Josh, Georgia, Jack and Reuben. Great grandmother to Isaac, Rebecca, and Esme. Margaret was deeply loved and will be much missed by family and friends.
Funeral service at Lathom Park Chapel, on Wednesday 19th December 2018 at 1pm followed by burial at Ormskirk Parish Church. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to the Alzheimers Society.
All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

WINN NEE BARTON JENNIE

On 27th November 2018
Suddenly at home
Aged 83 years
Of Silhouette

Beloved Wife of the late John, and will be sadly missed by Wendy, Pattie and family's.
Funeral service will take place at Christ Church on Friday 14th December at 1:00pm, followed by the Committal at Southport Crematorium.
No flowers by request, donations if so desired for Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and further enquiries please to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG. Tel 01704 214118.

DEATHS

EVANS CHARLES EDWARD

(of Charles Evans LTD. Kings Dock Street, Liverpool)

Sadly passed away peacefully, surrounded by his Family and Friends on
3rd December 2018
aged 77 years

Beloved Husband of Glenys. Devoted Dad of Victoria, and Proud Grandpa of Morgan, Dearest Brother to Edith.

He lived his life to the fullest, doing what he loved right until his last day.
He touched so many hearts and leaves a void which seems impossible to fill.
Charlie was a friend to all and an inspiration to many who knew him.
His humble generosity and wicked sense of humour will never be forgotten.

Funeral Service at Christ Church, Aughton on Tuesday 18th December 2018 at 1.00pm, followed by committal at West Lancs Crematorium. Family flowers only please by request, but donations in memory of Charlie are being gratefully received for Carla Lane Animal Sanctuary, 3, Spurriers Lane, Melling.

Donations and further enquires please to Lisa Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton. Tel: 01695 424888.

To place a family announcement please call 01704 392392

DEATHS

KENDALL RICHARD ANTHONY

13.11.1942
Suddenly after a very short illness at Queenscourt Hospice on 8th December 2018.

Richard a devoted and dearly loved Husband of Hazel, best Dad to Andrea & Joanne and best Grandad in the world to Rachel & Laura. Great Father in Law to Martin & Alastair.
Always loved.
Funeral service to take place on Thursday 20th December 2018 at West Lancashire Crematorium at 12.15pm.
Refreshments are at Hurlston Hall, Scarisbrick, Lancashire.
Family flowers only however donations are kindly being collected for Queenscourt Hospice.

Further enquires to Newland & Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors. 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton, Lancashire. PR4 6RJ Telephone 01772 811165

MAITLAND MARY

8th December 2018
Peacefully in Queenscourt Hospice
aged 83 years

Loving Wife of the late David. Devoted Mum of Paul, Anne, Christina, David, Anthony and Michael. Dear Mother in law of Gerard, Billy, Caroline and Jean. Cherished Nan and great Nan of all her Grandchildren. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Requiem Mass will be held at St Francis of Assisi Church on Friday 14th December at 9.30am followed by interment at St Teresa's Cemetery, Upholland.
All enquiries Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

DEATHS

FREEMAN PAT

After a short illness peacefully in hospital on 6th December 2018
aged 85 years

Much loved Wife of the late Bob. Much loved Mum of Paul and Gary. Dear Mother-in-Law of Carol and Ishbel. Loving Grandma of Jodie, Matthew, Sean, Dean, James, Owen and Alistair. Dear Sister of Penny, George and the late John. Pat will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Wednesday 19th December at 10am. Family flowers only by request please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for Southport Hospital, Ward 14A.

Further enquiries please to: Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, L40 5UU. Tel 01704 897770.

JUBB FRANCES

(Nee McMahon)

Passed away peacefully at home on 3rd December 2018 after a short illness

Much loved wife of Graham. Dearly loved mum of Susan, Linda & Diane. Will be much missed by all her family & friends.
Funeral Service at St Mary's Church Aughton on Monday 17th December 2018 at 11am followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium.
Family flowers only please but donations if so desired for Queenscourt Hospice.

Donations and further enquires please to Lisa Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, L39 5DZ. Tel: 01695 424888.

DEATHS

DAWSON EILEEN

Suddenly at home on 1st December 2018
aged 79 years

Dearly beloved Wife of Thomas. Much loved Mum of Philip and Janet. Dear Mother-in-Law of Gilbert. Dear and devoted Nan of Philippa and Alex and Great-Grandmother of Lucy and Sadie. Dear Sister of Alexander, Pauline, Jim, Jean, Ruth and the late Norah. Eileen will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Tuesday 18th December at 1pm. Family flowers only by request please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for The British Legion.

Further enquiries please to: Cookson Tyrer Funeral Directors, 2 Smithy Walk, Burscough, L40 5UU. Tel 01704 897770.

LEARY JOAN ANN

30th November 2018
Peacefully at her home in Skelmersdale
aged 82 years

The dearly loved Wife of the late Harry, loving Mum of Ian, Andrew (deceased) and Pam, dear Mother in law of Nicola and David and devoted Nana of Bethany, Jack, Sophia, Hannah and Cate. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Friday 14th December 2018 at 11:30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for North West Cancer Research.

All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel:01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

HOUGHTON SYLVIA ELIZABETH

1st December 2018

We are very sad to announce that Sylvia passed away peacefully at home. Beloved Wife of Barrie (Baz), much loved Mum of Debbie and Son-in-law Les, Devoted Nan of Andrew, James and Darren & their partners Ruhi, Bekki & Lisa. Dedicated to all her Great-Grandchildren Jaynie, Caitlin, Amelia, Ella & Elliot. Loving Sister to Lavinia & Husband Tommy.
Funeral Service at West Lancs Crematorium on Monday 17th December 2018 at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please by request but donations if so desired for The British Heart Foundation.

Donations and further enquiries please contact Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors. 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk,. Tele: 01695 424888.

REED NICK

On 4th December 2018
Peacefully in Queenscourt Hospice

Dearly Beloved Husband and best friend of Jan, much loved Dad of Fi and Wil, dear Father in law of Aid, devoted Grandad of Evie and Milly, and loving Son of Pat and Ron.
Funeral service will take place at Birkdale United Reformed Church on Monday 17th December at 1:00pm, followed by the committal at Southport Crematorium. Family flowers only by request, donations if so desired for Queenscourt Hospice. Donations and further enquiries please to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG. Tel 01704 214118.

DEATHS

MORGAN JOYCE

3rd December 2018
Peacefully with her family around her
aged 82 years

Wife of Ken, Mum of David (deceased), Jean, Anne and Sue, Mother in law of Gary and Kevan, Grandma of Katy, Ben, Joe and Jack. Joyce will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.
Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium Chapel, Burscough on Thursday 13th December 2018 at 11:30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Alzheimers's Research UK and/or Elm House Care Home, Skelmersdale.

All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

MOSS LEILA

27th November 2018
Passed away peacefully in hospital, after a long illness, aged 80 years
of Dalton, formerly of Burscough

Greatly missed by Ken, Belinda, Manuel and Henrietta.
Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium Burscough, on Wednesday 12th December, at 3:15pm. Family flowers only by request but donations if so desired are for Freshfield Animal Rescue and Formby and Southport Carriage Driving Group Riding For The Disabled Association.

For Funeral arrangements please contact Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors. 22a Liverpool Road North, Burscough, TEL: 01704 891555

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DEATHS

BROTHERIDGE JOHN (JACK) LEWIS

Aged 98

Died peacefully at Royal Liverpool Hospital on 3rd December 2018.

Jack was awarded the Freedom of the City of Liverpool, England. As one of only 16 remaining Liverpudlian Seafaring Survivors Battle of the Atlantic. Funeral service to take place at Thornton Crematorium Monday 17th December 2018 at 1.20pm. Family Flowers only please.

Further Enquiries to Newland & Wilkinson Independent Funeral Directors, 311 Hesketh Lane, Tarleton. Lancashire. PR4 6RJ Telephone 01772 811165

MILLER VERA

After a short illness at home on 1st December 2018 aged 72 years

Much loved Wife of John. Much loved Mum of Stephen, John and Elizabeth. Dear Mother-in-law of Becky. Devoted Grandma of Isaac and Evan. Loving sister of Robert and Linda. Vera will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at 2.30pm on Thursday 13th December 2018 at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin St, Burscough L40 7SP. Family flowers only by request but the family are gratefully receiving donations for World Wildlife Fund. Further enquiries please to: The Co-Operative Funeralcare, 36 Westway, Maghull L31 0AB. Tel: 0151 527 1709

CLARK KENNETH (KEN)

Peacefully at home on 6th December 2018 Aged 85 years

Devoted and much loved Husband of Sheila and Father to Ian, Heather and Duncan. Father-in-law to Ralph and Grandad to Laura, Brian and Jayne. Funeral service and Cremation at Thornton Crematorium on Wednesday 19th December 2018 at 10.40pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to the Alzheimers Society c/o H. Leslie Humphreys, 69 Liverpool Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 5SE. Tel: 0151 924 4804

DEATHS

HAMPTON BILL

December 5th 2018 Peacefully aged 75 years

Dearly loved Husband of devoted Wife Joyce, loving Dad of Joanne and Jeff. Father in law of Billy and Mandi and dear Grandad of Lee, Conor, Kieran, Paige, Nathan, Charlie and Annie-Mae. Funeral service and cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough on Thursday December 13th 2018 at 10:00am. Family flowers only please but donations, if desired for Kidney Research UK c/o Graham J Clegg Funeral Service, 7 Dover Road, Maghull, Merseyside L31 5JB Tel: 0151 520 3330. or at www.cleggfunerals.co.uk

APPLETON THOMAS (TOM)

4th December 2018 Peacefully at home aged 81 years

Loving Husband of Christine. Devoted Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Wednesday 19th December at 2.30pm. All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

TAYLOR BOB

3rd December 2018 Passed away peacefully in hospital, aged 72 years of Ormskirk.

Devoted Husband of Maureen, and a Wonderful Dad and Grandad. Funeral Service at St. Anne's R.C. Church, Ormskirk, on Thursday 13th December at 2.00pm, followed by Interment at West Lancashire Cemetery, Burscough.

Flowers and further enquiries please contact Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk. Tel: 01695 424888.

DEATHS

SMITH EDWIN (EDDIE/TED)

On 5th December 2018 Sadly passed away aged 88 years.

Dear Husband of the late Freida and latterly Sheila, loving Father of David, Anne and Yvonne, dear Father in law of Jill, Andy and Mark, and will be sadly missed by his Grandchildren and great Grandchildren. Funeral service and Committal will take place at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 13th December at 10:40am. Family flowers only by request, donations if so desired for the British Heart Foundation. Donations and further enquiries please to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG. Tel. 01704 214118.

Want to place a family announcement?
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SWARBRICK GERARD FRANCIS

3rd December 2018 aged 90 years. Peacefully, surrounded by love and prayer.

Beloved Husband of Margaret (deceased), much loved Dadda, Grandad, Brother, Father-in-law, Uncle, Cousin and friend to so many. Requiem Mass at St Anne's RC church, Ormskirk at midday on Wednesday 19th December. Family flowers only. Donations to St Anne's Roof Fund or British Heart Foundation. Enquiries to George Ball and Son, 39, Derby Range, Heaton Moor, Stockport, SK4 4AB Tel: 0161 432 2131

DEATHS

WELSH SHELAGH

December 4th 2018 Peacefully aged 83 years

Much loved Wife of the late Stan. Loved Mum of Mark and Julie. Mother in law of Julie and Graham and dear Nana of Christopher, Michael and Lucy. She will be sadly missed. Funeral service at St Andrew's Church, Maghull on Friday December 14th 2018 at 11:00am followed by cremation at Thornton Crematorium. Family flowers only please but donations, if desired for Parkinson's Disease Society c/o Graham J Clegg Funeral Service, 7 Dover Road, Maghull, Merseyside L31 5JB Tel: 0151 520 3330 or at www.cleggfunerals.co.uk

SWIFT ROY BERNARD

2nd December 2018 Aged 83 years

Died peacefully after a short illness with his loving Wife Valerie by his side. Roy will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 14th December at 10:40am. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being collected for Queenscourt Hospice. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

CURWEN OLIVE

3rd December 2018 Suddenly in hospital Aged 91 years

Dearly beloved Mum to Neville, Nicholas, Philip, Paula and David. Nan to Christopher, Andrew, Alistair, Charlotte, Matthew, Alice, Richard, Emma & Amy. Great Nan to Lily, Jessica, Isla & Issac. Mum in Law to Irene, Jasmine, Martin & Christine. Olive will be sadly missed by all her loving family. Funeral service will be held at St. Lukes Church, Crosby on Tuesday 18th December 2018 at 2.00pm followed by Cremation at Thornton Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Jospice c/o H. Leslie Humphreys, Liverpool Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 5SE. Tel: 0151 9244805

DEATHS

HILL STEPHEN

Passed away peacefully 9th December 2018 aged 68 years of Ormskirk

Loved and missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service at West Lancs Crematorium on Wednesday 19th December at 1.45 pm Family flowers only please by request, but Donations are being gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice.

Donations and further enquires please to Lisa Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton. Tel: 01695 424888.

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BIRTHDAYS

STEPHEN JOHN WINROW

16th December

HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY

Lots of love and best wishes from Mum Jean and all the Winrow family (and Dad John, star in the sky)

x x

PRAYERS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published.

P.C

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FARRINGTON JEAN

Christine and Gillian would like to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for all their sympathy cards, messages of condolence and donations for The British Heart Foundation received during their recent sad loss of a much loved Mum and Grandmother. Thanks also to Rev. Eileen Heaney for her kind words of comfort and to Lisa Hunter and her team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements.

RICHMOND RICHARD (RICK)

Susan, Maureen, Philip and Sarah would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind messages of sympathy and support after the sudden sad loss of their loving Husband, Father and Brother. Special thanks to the Rev. Mike Tinsley for a lovely service and to Neal Buckley and staff for their caring attention at such a difficult time.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

EDGAR GEORGE

The family of the late George would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their kind messages of sympathy, cards, flowers and donations received during their recent sad loss. Special thanks to the Royal Marines who attended and giving George such a good send off. Thanks also to Carol Edwards for a beautiful service and Melanie at H. Hardman & Co for her dignified funeral arrangements.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

STUBBS PAT R-I-P

Pat passed away on the 21st November 2018. Jackie and Ann would like to thank all those who were able to attend the funeral which was presided over by Deacon Bill Ball. The family are very humbled by all the cards of condolences and donations received in lieu of flowers for Macmillan Cancer Support. Special thanks to Howard's Funeral Directors for all your help and support. Thank you to Vicky and staff at the Cheshire Lines pub, King Street, Southport and to all Pat's friends.

IN MEMORIAM

FAZAKERLEY ELENA (LEE)

11/12/2017

Always in my heart, miss you every day. Love you forever, your loving Husband Dave

xx

IN MEMORIAM

MCKENDRICK BRIDIE

11th December 2014

For a lovely lady

forever remembered

with love, Barbara.

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LOTTERY RESULTS

JOSPICE LOTTERY WINNERS
Friday 7th December 2018

£1000.. Mrs McGahon from Litherland
£250....Mrs Stubbs from Blundellsands
£100.....Mr Keegan from Crosby
Plus 15 other winners of £10 each

PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that an application has been made to the Licensing Authority of West Lancashire Borough Council for the grant of a Premises Licence under Section 17 Licensing Act 2003/ Club or Premises Certificate under Section 71 Licensing Act 2003

Name of Applicant
Estates and Valuation Section, Development and Regeneration Service, West Lancashire Borough Council.

Postal Address of the Premises
1 Wheatsheaf Walk, Ormskirk, L39 2XA

Details of the application are as follows;
Opening Hours: Sunday –Thursday, 11.00 – 23.30 hours
Friday – Saturday, 11.00 - 00.30 hours
Supply of Alcohol: Sunday - Thursday 11.00 - 23.00 hours
Friday – Saturday 11.00 - 00.00 hours
Recorded Music: Sunday – Thursday 11.00 - 23.00 hours
Friday – Saturday 11.00 – 00.00 hours
Late Night Refreshment Friday – Saturday 23.00.00.00 hours
The application may be inspected at the West Lancashire Borough Council Licensing office, between the hours of 9.00am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday at the address shown below or brief details can also be obtained from the Council's website at http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/licensing
Any "Interested Party" who wishes to make representations must submit them in writing to the Licensing Officer, West Lancashire Borough Council, Licensing Section, Robert Hodge Centre, Stanley Way, Skelmersdale, WN8 8EE or via e-mail to licensing.enquiries@westlancs.gov.uk by no later than 2 January 2019
IT IS AN OFFENCE knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application, and on summary conviction a person is liable to a fine of up to £5,000.

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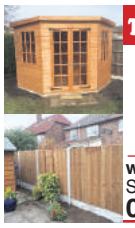

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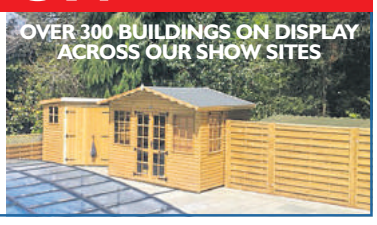

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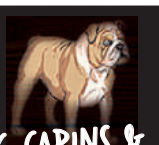

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65 FORD KUGA TITANIUM 'X' 2.0 TDCi, Magnetic grey, full leather interior, heated electric seats, climate control, bluetooth etc, 27,000 miles only.....**£14,999**

15 FORD KUGA TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI, Frozen White, half leather trim, privacy glass, roof rails, DAB radio, alloys, elec pack etc.....**value at £11,999**

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14 LANDROVER FREELANDER 2.2 GS TD4 AUTOMATIC, Frozen white, full leather interior, heated seats, privacy glass & A/C, 40,000 miles only.....**£14,999**

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65 FORD GRAND C-MAX TITANIUM 2.0 TDCi AUTOMATIC, deep impact blue, satellite navigation, keyless go, climate control, 7 seats etc, cost new over £25,000 - now only.....**£12,499**

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The Manchester show was a great place to see classic cars like the Jaguar E-type

It's the most wonderful time of the year - for wandering, looking at old cars of course!

IT'S the most wonderful time of the year. For wandering around exhibition halls looking at old cars, that is, because it's too cold and miserable to be doing it outdoors.

The big one for anyone into Jaguar E-types, Triumph Stags and the like is the three-day show down at the NEC in Birmingham, but I've long advocated doing your homework, booking a budget flight and checking out the foreign ones, because there's so many of them.

A couple of years ago I had a great weekend wandering around Barcelona's big classic show – and a bit of sightseeing, of course – because it was cheaper to hop on a big silver bird at John Lennon than it was to spend a weekend going to many of Britain's bigger car shows. Paris' Retromobile and the big German shows are just around the corner. Top tip if you're looking for a Christmas present with a difference!

But I'm saddened this week that the North West's entry in this big round-up of indoor shows is no more. Over the weekend the organisers of the Manchester Classic Car Show, held every September at Event City by the Trafford Centre, said it won't be returning in 2019 due to rising costs. Or in "the foreseeable future" either, according to the organiser's official statement. Which is a shame, because it was a proper, petrol-head day out that dialled down the hog roasts and live bands because it knew everyone wanted to look at Triumph Dolomites instead.

The frustrating thing was that, confronted with rising costs at Event City, the organisers had nowhere else to turn to, because no other venue in the North West can stage a big, indoor car show (neither Manchester Central nor the Echo Arena in Liverpool have that sort of floorspace, since you're asking). Over in Germany virtually every city has a *Messe* – a trade fair, or in other words a massive indoor venue geared up to holding Crufts-sized mega-shows, so there are loads of options if you want to put on a car show.

But in the UK you've got the NEC, ExCeL down in London's Docklands, Event City – and that's about it. Even rosy old Earl's Court, which I loved going to as a kid, is under some swish new housing now.

Which is frustrating, because I know from the sheer volume of cars that turn up to the North West's many outdoor shows that there's an appetite for at least one decent indoor one, which we can all enjoy when it's tipping it down with rain.

Maybe it's time for a new venue altogether. Anyone got a disused aircraft hanger or an unfeasibly large warehouse going spare?

David Simister is the editor of Classic Car Weekly

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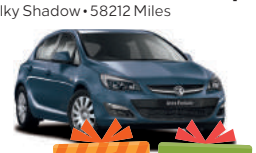

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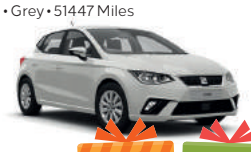

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Match ended early by deluge after promising first half effort

Colne 0
Skelmersdale United 0
(Match abandoned after 45 mins)

IT was all going to plan for Paul McNally's Skelmersdale United side when they visited promotion chasing Colne on Saturday.

They were matching the east Lancashire outfit and thoroughly deserved to be on level terms 0-0 when the teams went in for half-time but then the British weather had its say on everyone's entertainment by producing a deluge that forced a pitch inspection by the referee and both managers. Before the second-half could commence, the match was abandoned, reportedly because the ball would no longer roll properly.

Paul McNally had introduced two new players, both had been with him previously at Litherland Remyca, striker Joel Douglas and hugely experienced midfielder Marvin Molyneux and both were in the starting line-up. Paul also retained youngster Liam Boden in goal after his impressive performance on his debut last week.

Colne had former Skelmersdale championship-winning striker Josh Hine making his debut for them.

Skelmersdale had loud appeals for a penalty that were turned away in the early stages, then Davy Moore put a free-kick over the home crossbar.

Left-winger Brad Lynch was the danger man for Colne making a number of weaving runs at the Skem defence but he was kept at bay.

It had not been the most action packed half of football you will see and it looked good for Skem as they went into the dressing-rooms, then the heavens opened.

Skelmersdale will probably be disappointed with the curtailment of the game, they were looking to have strong case to bring at least a point home with them. Paul McNally's changes are working well.

Crunch time for Skem as ex-Linnets man Molyneux joins

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

IT is early to say that a game is a crunch fixture but Skelmersdale United's home game against Kendal Town is certainly an important one. Skelmersdale United are in bottom place in the Evo-Stik Division One West and Kendal are one place above them in the league table, so the bare facts are simple enough.

Skem are on eight points, Kendal are on 11 points. Skelmersdale haven't won at home all season but Kendal have picked seven of their points on the road, so it would appear on paper a close call.

It will be the second time the two teams have met this season, the previous one up at Parkside in August finished in a closely fought 1-0 victory for Kendal their only home win of the season.

There is one thing in Skelmersdale's favour though; they are in form compared to their visitors. In the last two games new Skem manager Paul McNally has introduced a few new signings that have made a difference and the last two games have seen improved performances. A week last Saturday a 2-2 draw at home to Kidsgrove Athletic that could easily have been won and a very commendable 0-0 draw at Colne last week, although the Colne game was abandoned at half-time. Kendal got beaten 5-1 at home to Widnes on Saturday.

One of the new signings Paul McNally has made is a player who is very well known around West Lancashire and is something of a legend with the supporters of Skem's rivals Burscough.

Midfielder Marvin Molyneux made his Skem debut at Colne and put in an excellent showin. The creative midfielder was a member of Burscough's FA Trophy-winning team at Villa Park in 2003. In fact, he is the second member of the 2003 Linnets heroes to play for Skem this season, as Michael White started the season at Skem.

Skelmersdale don't have a midweek game this week or next week and will travel to Leek Town for their next away fixture on Saturday, December 22.

In contrast Burscough have a busy couple of weeks. Last night (Tuesday) they will have played away at Ashton Athletic then they have a pair of home games.

This Saturday sees struggling Abbey Hey come to Victoria Park, followed on Tuesday, December 18 when Runcorn Town will be the visitors, kick off 7.45pm.

On Saturday, December 22 Burscough are at Winsford United.

Marvin Molyneux. Picture by Les Gallup.

Burscough blown out of Macron Cup by leaders

City of Liverpool 6
Burscough 2

BURSCOUGH made a good effort in their Macron Cup tie away to the runaway North West Counties League leaders and the outcome was in doubt until the 80th minute when the hosts took over with three goals in the last 10 minutes to make the game wrongly appear very-one sided.

With four minutes gone COL won a corner on the right, the ball was lifted to past the far post and while the Linnets goalkeeper Max Povey lost the flight of the ball the hosts' Anthony Brown didn't and headed home.

COL were doing well down the right wing and it was from another move down that side that they doubled the lead, the ball being played low into the six-yard box from where goalkeeper and defender both touched the ball before it went into the Linnets net in the 14th minute.

Burscough quickly got themselves back into the match with a goal a minute later. First Chad Whyte had a shot saved then from the cleared ball Burscough attacked again, the ball was fed to Jordan Lorde on the 18- yard line and he turned and lashed a vicious skimming shot into the bottom corner to make it 2-1.

On 24 minutes Tom Peterson went close for COL when his shot on the turn went into the side netting but Burscough were still a serious threat on the counterattack.

In the 28th minute a poor header brought the Linnets more problems, a long-range free-kick was lofted into the Burscough penalty area and was only half headed clear. The ball fell to Jack Hazelhurst some 20 yards out and he hit a first-time left-foot shot inside the post to make it 3-1.

COL had a strong wind behind them and just before half-time, via a long punt up the par, they were in on goal again, Burscough goalkeeper Max Povey made a genuine dive at the striker's feet and the forward went dow. Unfortunately as well as a free kick, the referee waved a red card at Povey, so the Linnets faced 50 minutes down to 10 men.

Despite the personnel handicap Burscough did well after half-time and on 63 minutes they pulled a goal back and were well in the game again. Jamie Clark running down the left and whist still on the run sending an excellent pinpoint cross into the COL penalty area for Whyte to send a well-placed dropping header over the goalkeeper and into the net.

In the last 15 minutes the rain came down in torrents and COL upped their game, culminating in the 80th minute with a goal that finished off Burscough with a looping shot from Luke Denson from the right that ended up in the top corner.

Peterson then rounded the keeper to make it 5-2 and a left-foot shot by Craig Cairns made it six.

The margin flattered COL and just rubbed salt into the Linnets wounds as it had been a gallant against the odds effort made even more difficult by that harsh sending off.

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